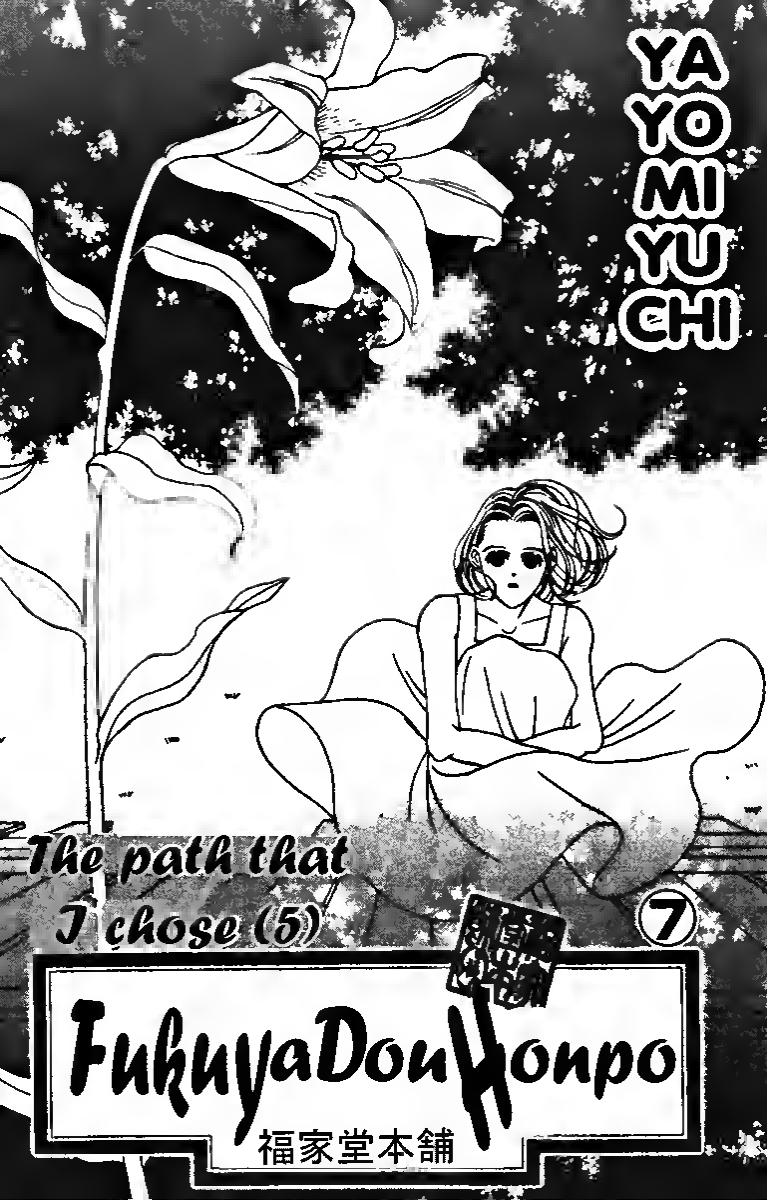

YA
YO
MI
YU
CHI
The path that I chose (5)
7
FukuyaDouHonpo
福家堂本舗

HAVE YOU HEARD?
OH, ABOUT THE FUKUYA DAUGHTER?
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE WENT BACK TO HER MOTHER'S HOUSE
(HEEP
(HEEP
FROM WHAT I HEARD, SHE RAN HOME AFTER ONLY THREE DAYS
THREE DAYS? MY GOODNESS, HAS THE GIRL NO PERSEVERANCE?
THAT'S INDECENT
(HEEP
(HEEP
ON TOP OF THAT, SHE CAME BACK IN HER SLEEPING YUKATA.
A LOT OF PEOPLE SAW HER WALKING HOME.
(HEEP
(HEEP
GOOD HEAVENS! IS THAT SO? COULD YOU TELL ME THE STORY RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING?

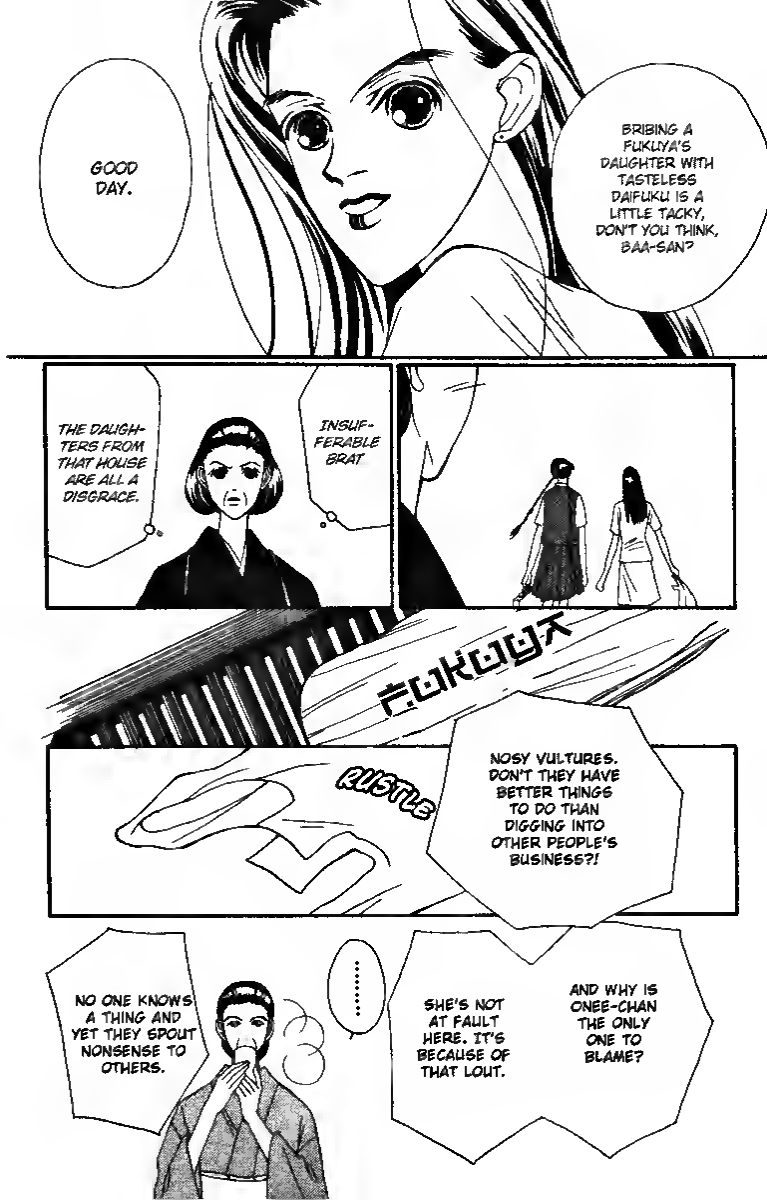
AT FIRST, KOMAKO-SAN PLANNED FOR HER DAUGHTER TO MARRY A WORKER IN HER SHOP AND BE THE NEXT SUCCESSOR
BUT SHE SUDDENLY CHANGED HER MIND.
IT STARTED WITH HINOYAMA-SAN'S GRANDSON.
HE TOOK A LIKING AT HINA-CHAN, OR SO I HEARD
DEAR, WHY? DID KOMAKO-SAN PREFER A BANKER FOR A SON-IN-LAW?
HO HO, PLEASE
THE OTHER PARTY WAS OF THE HINOYAMA FAMILY. THINK ABOUT IT.
HO HO HO, THAT'S TRUE. HOW INDECENT INDEED.
WHAT A SURPRISE TO LEARN WHAT SHE'S REALLY MADE OF.
PEOPLE ALWAYS SAID KOMAKO-SAN'S FIRSTBORN WAS THE EPITOME OF A DAUGHTER.

A DELIVERY FROM THE FUKUYA SHOP, MA'AM.
THANK YOU. SORRY FOR THE SUDDEN ORDER.
WE'RE GLAD TO BE OF SERVICE PLEASE ALLOW ME TO CHECK THE ORDER FOR YOU
ALL RIGHT.
UHM.. YOUNG MAN
.....
YOUR SHOP'S MISS, HINA-CHAN, SHE'S COME BACK HOME?
WHAT HAPPENED EXACTLY?
ARE THEY OFFICIALLY SEPARATED?

OH, I'M ONLY CONCERNED FOR HER WELL-BEING, I ASSURE YOU.
AH, HANA-CHAN. BACK FROM SCHOOL?
YES.
WON'T YOU COME INSIDE FOR A MINUTE?

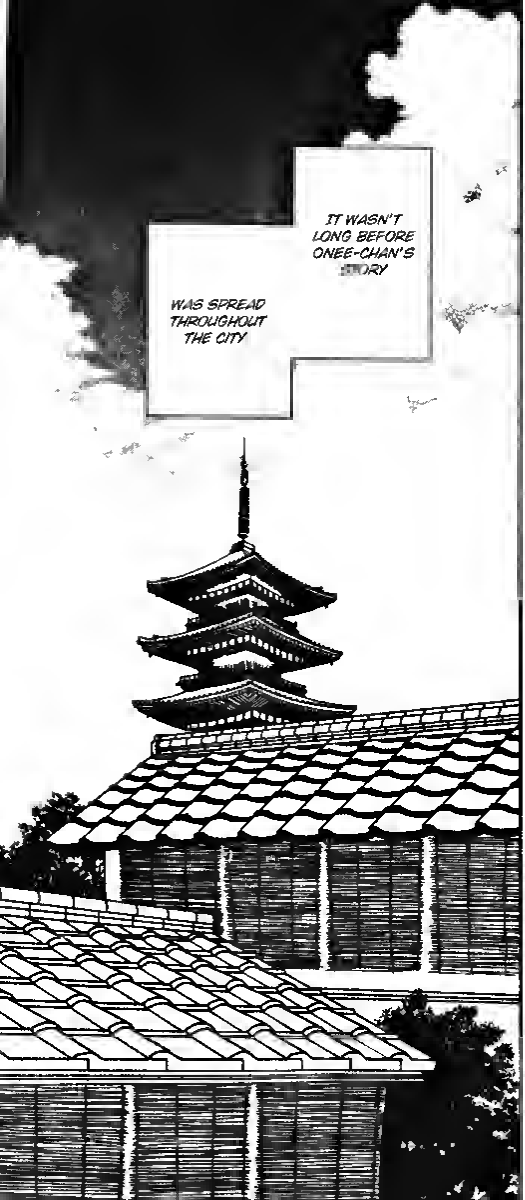
AH, WAIT, HANA-CHAN.
THANK YOU, BUT IF I DON'T HURRY HOME, MOM WILL BE UPSET.
I'VE GOT SOME DELICIOUS DAIFUKU. LET'S HAVE TEA TOGETHER
I HEARD ABOUT HINA-CHAN.
SHE'S COME HOME, RIGHT? HOW AWFUL BUT WELL...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY PEOPLE THINK HINA-CHAN IS THE ONE AT FAULT HERE!
I WONDER WHAT HER REASON WAS.
.....
YOU KNOW I'M ON HINA-CHAN'S SIDE, DON'T YOU?

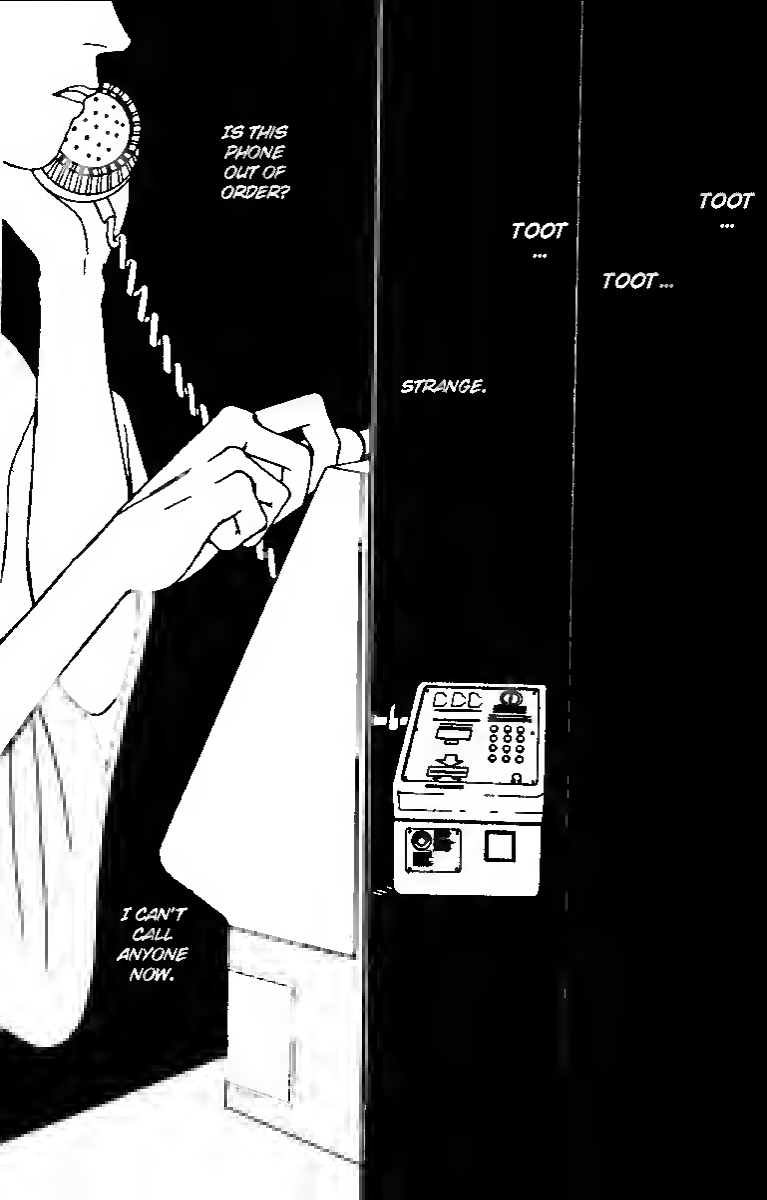
WHAT'RE YOU LOITERING AROUND HERE FOR?
HANA.
.....
HOME, HOME. GO HOME ALREADY.
ARARE-CHAN.
AH, BAA-SAN.

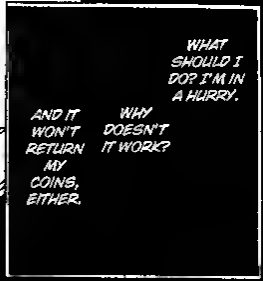

GOOD DAY.
BRIBING A FUKUYA'S DAUGHTER WITH TASTELESS DAIFUKU IS A LITTLE TACKY, DON'T YOU THINK, BAA-SAN?
THE DAUGHTERS FROM THAT HOUSE ARE ALL A DISGRACE.
INSUFFERABLE BRAT
FUKUYA
RUSTLE
NOSY VULTURES. DON'T THEY HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN DIGGING INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS?!
NO ONE KNOWS A THING AND YET THEY SPOUT NONSENSE TO OTHERS.
.....
SHE'S NOT AT FAULT HERE. IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT LOUT.
AND WHY IS ONEE-CHAN THE ONLY ONE TO BLAME?

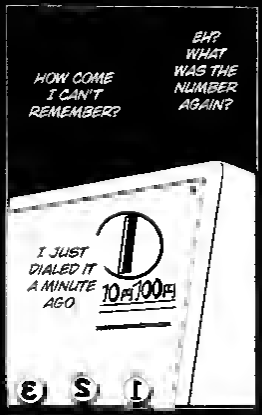
LEAVE THEM BE.
BUT MOM! DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT ONEE-CHAN?
I WON'T STAND FOR IT.
PEOPLE DEVOUR ANY JUICY GOSSIP THAT RISES IN THE MOMENT.
YOU PRATTLED ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS BEFORE TOO
SUDDENLY YOU'RE COMPLAINING.
I DON'T CARE IF THEY TALK ABOUT ME.
BUT THIS IS ONEE-CHAN!
ONEE-CHAN, SHE...

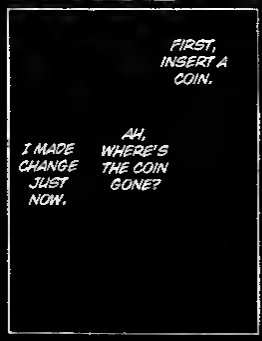
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN OUR PRIDE
ALL OF THE SPECULATIONS ABOUT THEIR SEPARATION. .


IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE ONEE-CHAN'S STORY
WAS SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE CITY
SOME ARE DOWNRIGHT NASTY, EVEN THOUGH THOSE WHO CAME UP WITH IT KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE TRUTH
THAT'S WHY

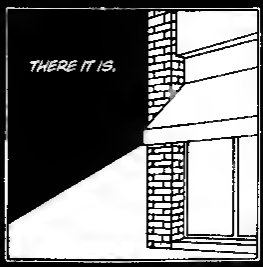

IS THIS PHONE OUT OF ORDER?
TOOT ...
TOOT ...
TOOT...
STRANGE.
I CAN'T CALL ANYONE NOW.



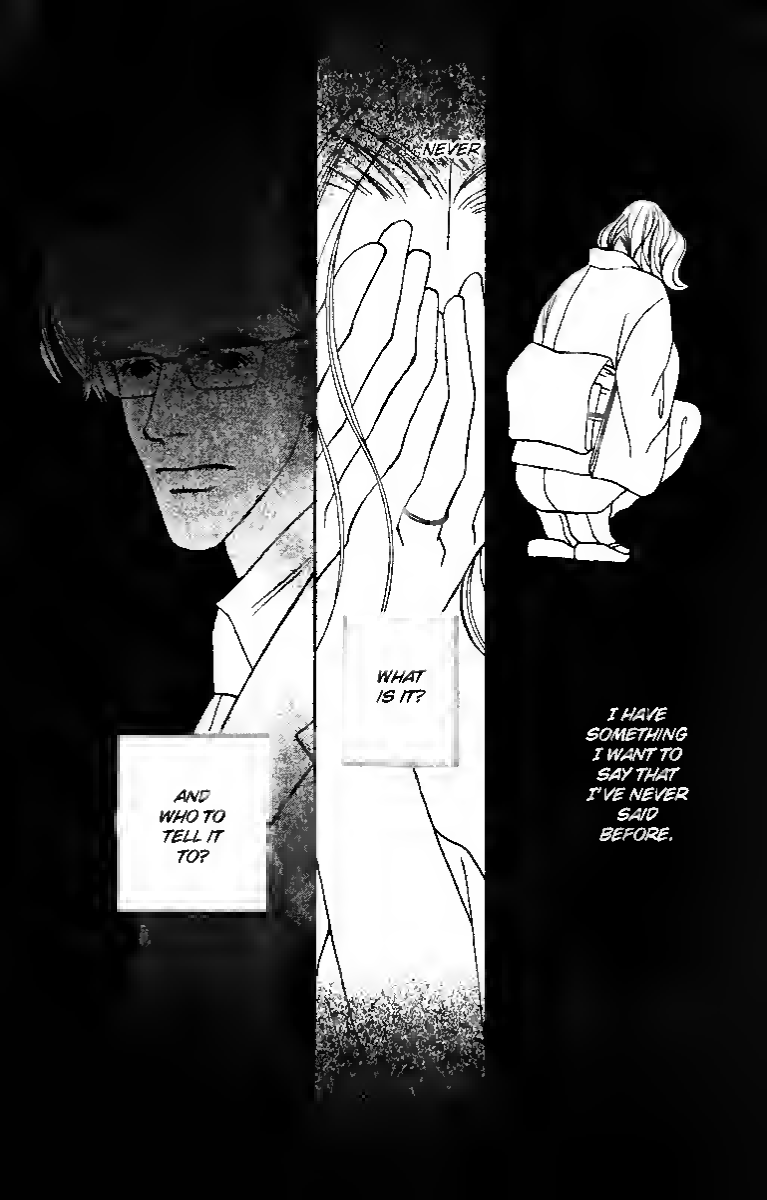


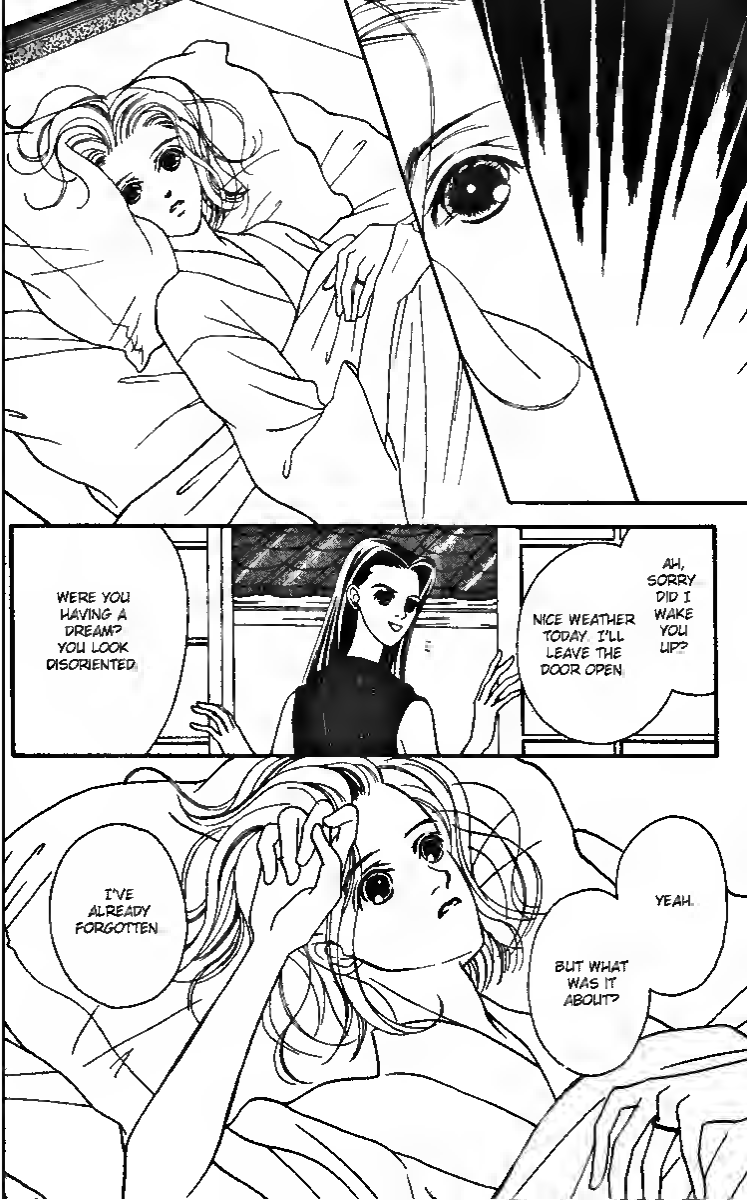


HUFF HUFF HUFF

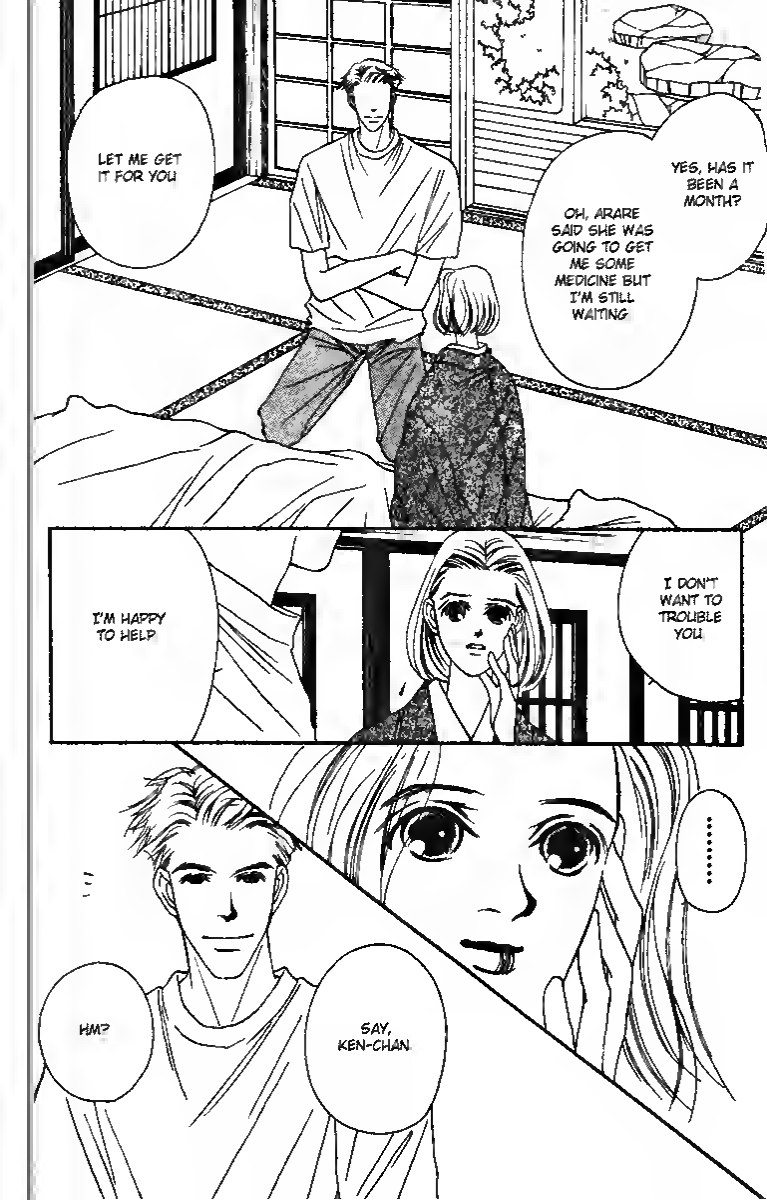


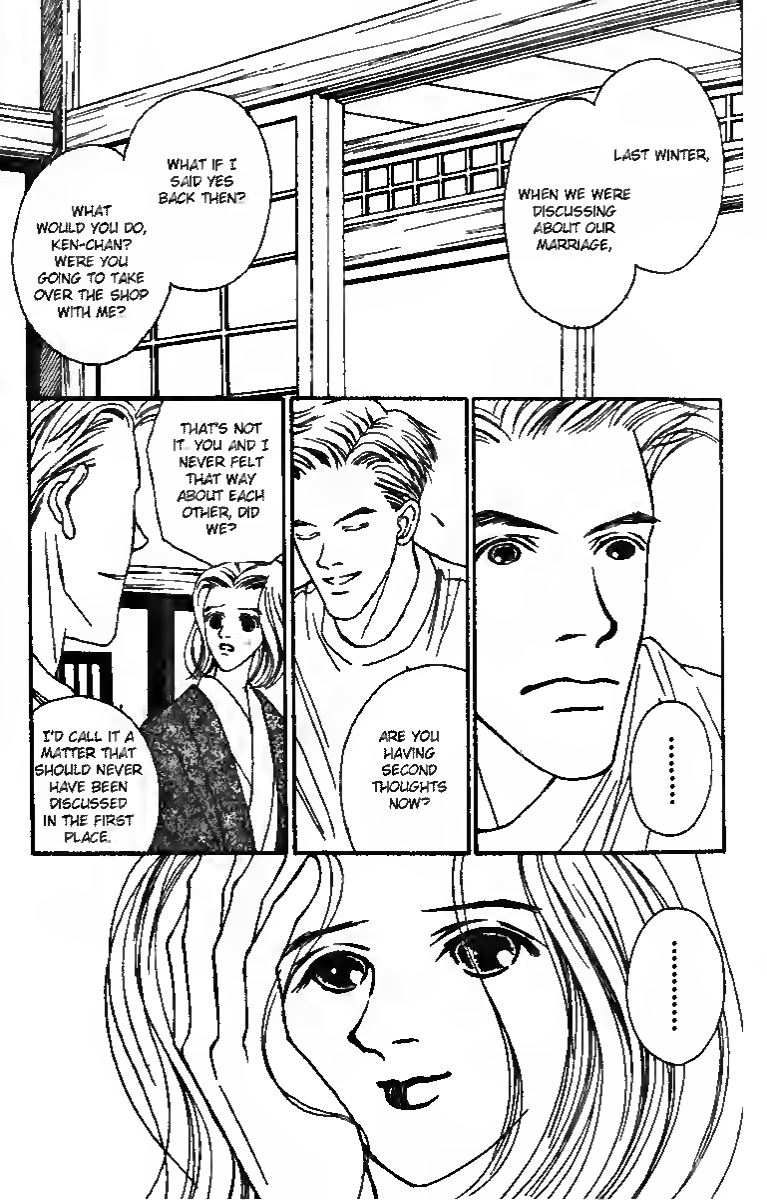
I'LL GO TO THE SHOP AGAIN TO GET MORE.
AH? WHERE'S THE SHOP?
IT WAS HERE JUST NOW.
WHERE DID IT GO?
HUFF HUFF
THIS IS MY LAST COIN.
TOOT
WHAT WAS THE NUMBER?
I CAN'T REMEMBER IT.
PLEASE, I'M IN A HURRY. PLEASE LET ME MAKE A CALL.
I BEG YOU. PLEASE LET THE CALL GO THROUGH.

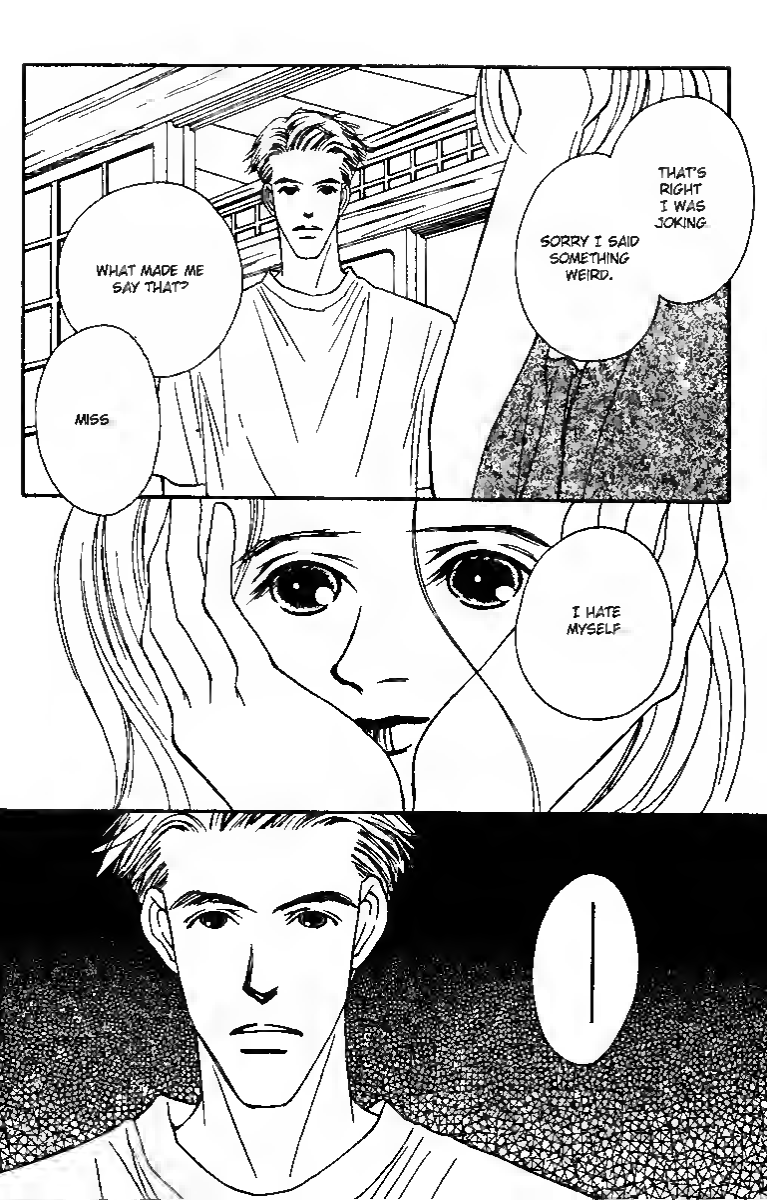

NEVER
I HAVE SOMETHING I WANT TO SAY THAT I'VE NEVER SAID BEFORE.
WHAT IS IT?
AND WHO TO TELL IT TO?

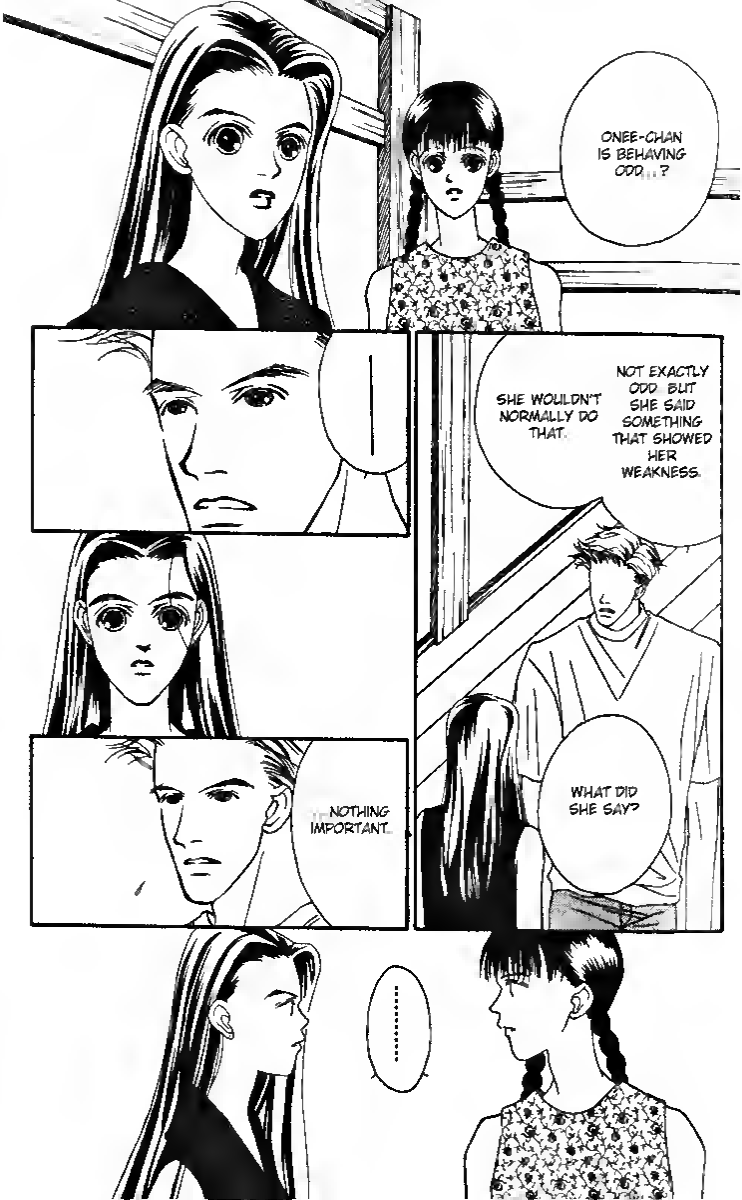

AH, SORRY DID I WAKE YOU UP?
NICE WEATHER TODAY. I'LL LEAVE THE DOOR OPEN.
WERE YOU HAVING A DREAM? YOU LOOK DISORIENTED.
YEAH.
BUT WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?
I'VE ALREADY FORGOTTEN.

THE FIRST PERSON WHO NOTICED THE CHANGE WAS KENJI-SAN.
(HEEP
(HEEP
KEN-CHAN, YOU'RE STRANGE, YOU KNOW THAT?
WHY DID YOU COME TO VISIT ME ON YOUR OFF-DAY?
I'VE GOT SOME UNFINISHED WORK. IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE AN OFF-DAY TO ME.
DO YOU STILL HAVE A FEVER?

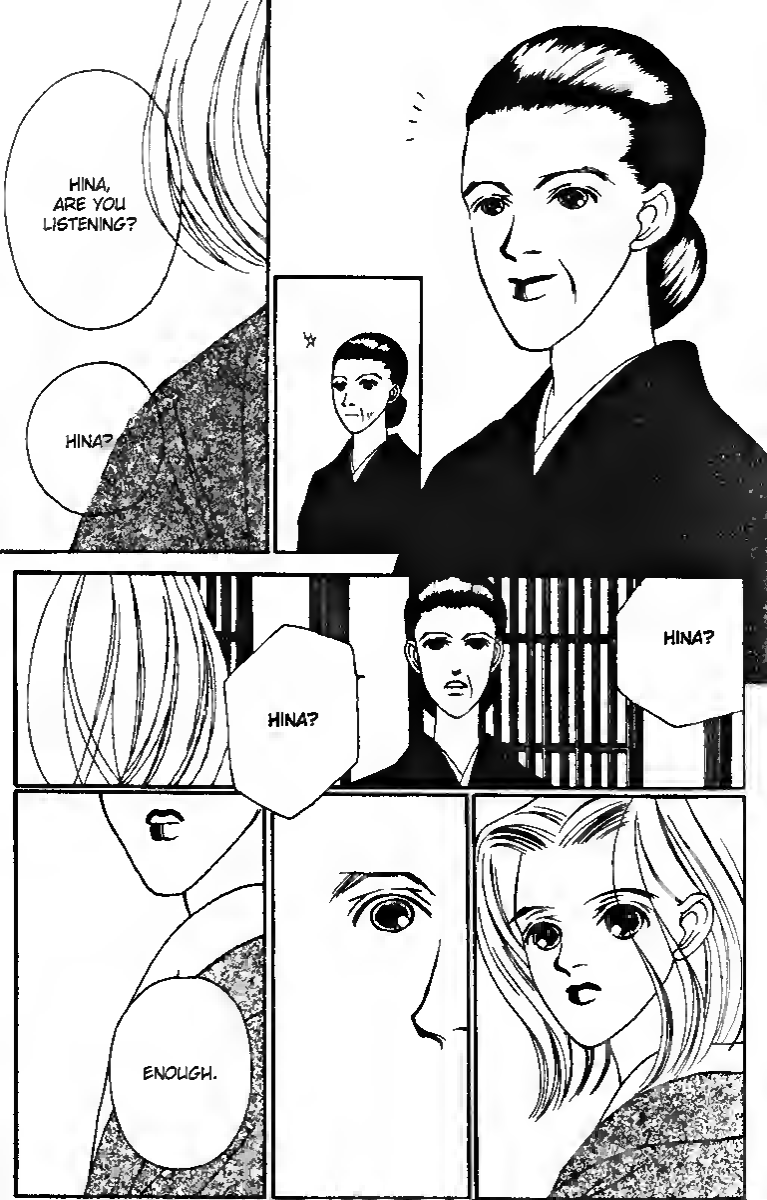

LET ME GET IT FOR YOU
OH, ARARE SAID SHE WAS GOING TO GET ME SOME MEDICINE BUT I'M STILL WAITING
YES, HAS IT BEEN A MONTH?
I'M HAPPY TO HELP
I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE YOU
.....
HM?
SAY, KEN-CHAN


LAST WINTER,
WHEN WE WERE DISCUSSING ABOUT OUR MARRIAGE,
WHAT IF I SAID YES BACK THEN?
WHAT WOULD YOU DO, KEN-CHAN? WERE YOU GOING TO TAKE OVER THE SHOP WITH ME?
THAT'S NOT IT. YOU AND I NEVER FELT THAT WAY ABOUT EACH OTHER, DID WE?
I'D CALL IT A MATTER THAT SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE FIRST PLACE.
ARE YOU HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS NOW?
.....
.....

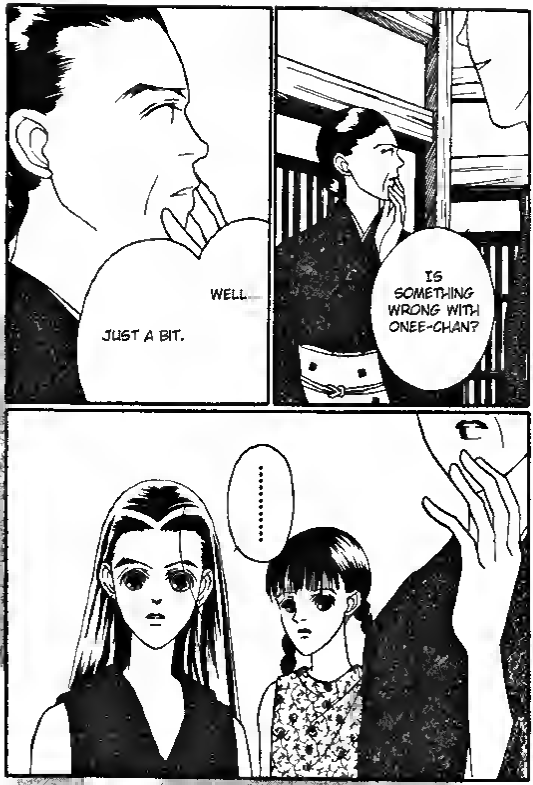

THAT'S RIGHT I WAS JOKING
SORRY I SAID SOMETHING WEIRD.
WHAT MADE ME SAY THAT?
MISS
I HATE MYSELF
—


ONEE-CHAN IS BEHAVING ODD...?
SHE WOULDN'T NORMALLY DO THAT.
NOT EXACTLY ODD BUT SHE SAID SOMETHING THAT SHOWED HER WEAKNESS.
WHAT DID SHE SAY?
...NOTHING IMPORTANT.
.....

(HEEP
(HEEP
OI, HINA
HINA?
ARE YOU GOING TO LEAVE THINGS HANGING LIKE THIS?
GO AND SETTLE IT WITH HIM ALREADY.
THINGS WILL ONLY GET WORSE IF YOU PROLONG IT.
(HEEP
(HEEP
(HEEP


HINA, ARE YOU LISTENING?
HINA?
HINA?
HINA?
ENOUGH.

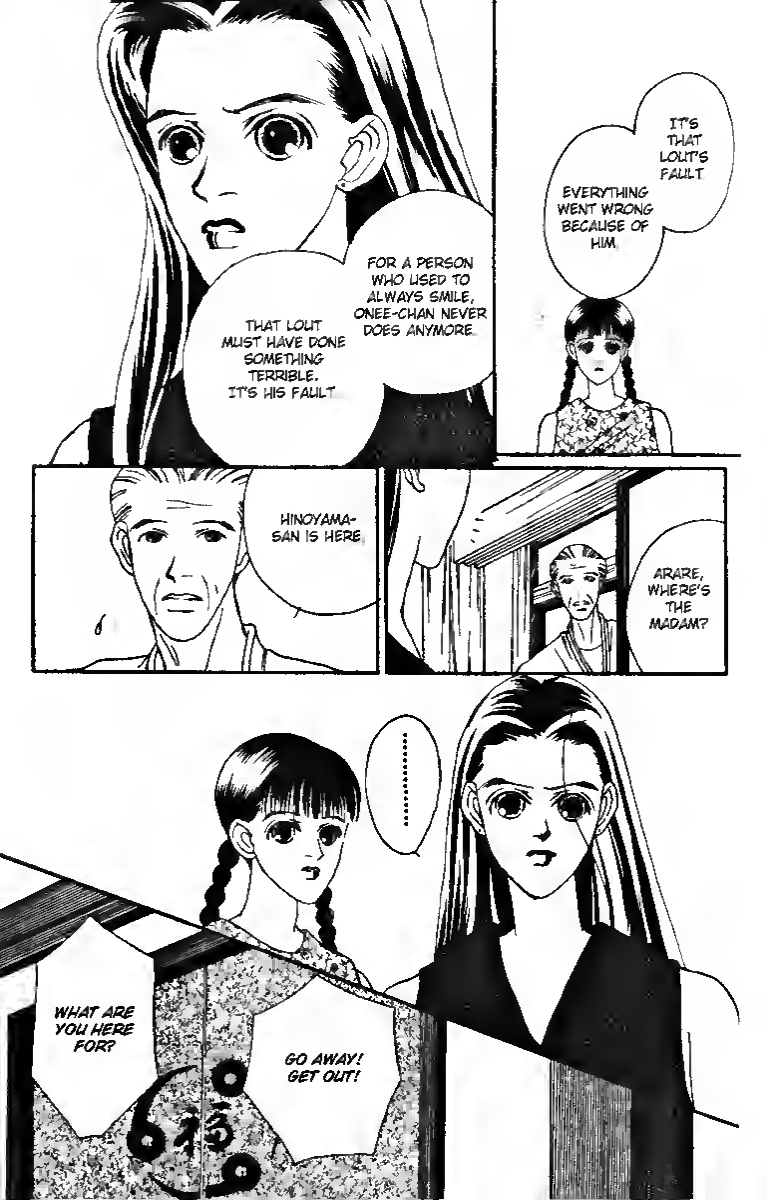
I'M TIRED OF YOUR ORDERS.
STOP TALKING.
HINA .?
(HEEP
(HEEP
(HEEP


WELL...
JUST A BIT.
IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH ONEE-CHAN?
.....
ONEE-CHAN...

YOU WANT SOME JUICE?
THAT'D BE GREAT.
THERE'S SOME IN THE FRIDGE. I'LL GET IT FOR YOU.
KENJI-SAN SAID SHE'S BEEN ACTING ODD.
I DON'T SEE ANYTHING.
HANA.
YES?
COME HERE.

!?
LET ME STAY LIKE THIS FOR A WHILE.
I FEEL A LITTLE DEPRESSED.
.....
ONEE-CHAN...
WHAT ON EARTH IS HAPPENING?

HAS LOST A HOLD OF HERSELF.
IT'S DEFINITELY NOT THE SAME ONEE-CHAN.
SHE'S USUALLY STRONG AND SELF-COMPOSED.
NEVER ONCE HAS SHE SHOWN HER WEAKNESS TO US
THE FEVER JUST WON'T COME DOWN AT ALL.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER NOW.


IT'S THAT LOLIT'S FAULT
EVERYTHING WENT WRONG BECAUSE OF HIM
FOR A PERSON WHO USED TO ALWAYS SMILE, ONEE-CHAN NEVER DOES ANYMORE
THAT LOLIT MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING TERRIBLE. IT'S HIS FAULT
HINOYAMA-SAN IS HERE
ARARE, WHERE'S THE MADAM?
.....
WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?
GO AWAY! GET OUT!

PLEASE LET ME SEE HINA-SAN.
BOLD TALK FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS MADE HER THIS WAY.
LEAVE HER ALONE!
GET OUT!
.....
tap
GO ALREADY.

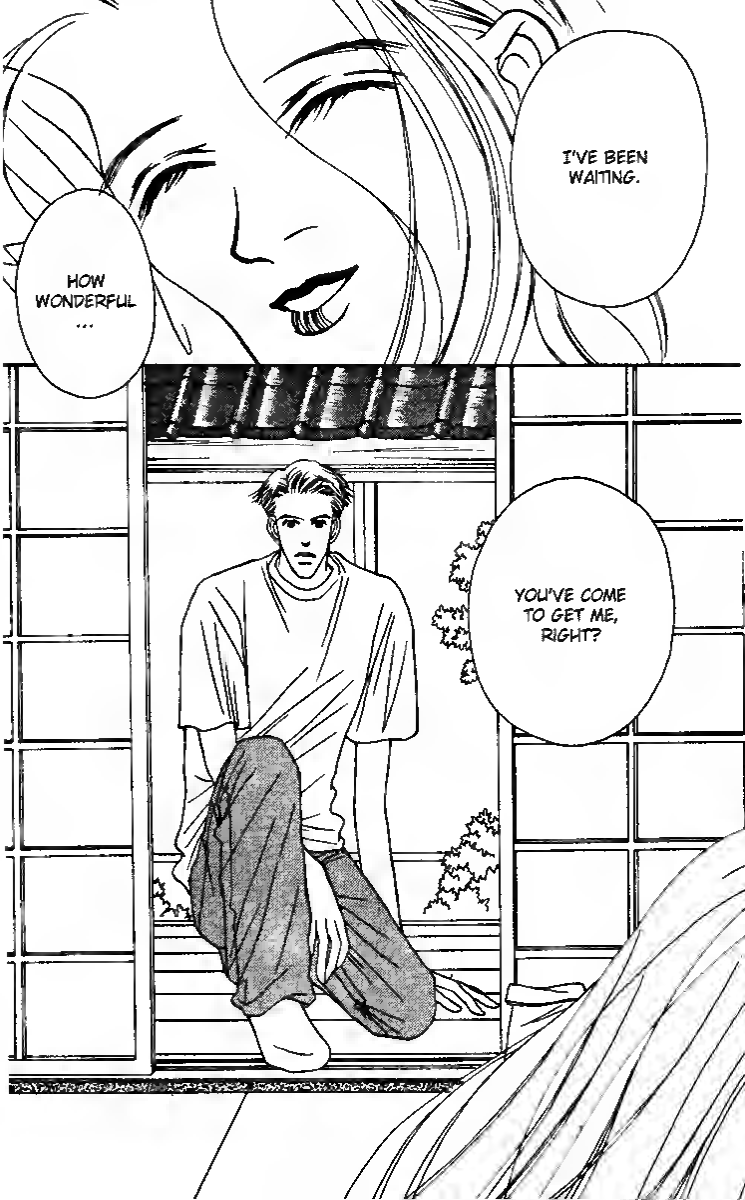
HINOYAMA-SAN...?
TODAY IS MY LAST DAY AT WORK
I'M GOING TO SEE MY GRANDFATHER. I WON'T BE HERE FOR A WHILE
SO I WANTED TO TELL HINA-SAN ABOUT IT BUT I DIDN'T GET TO SEE HER
MAYBE IT'S BEST THAT I DON'T SEE HER
YEAH, SHE'D BE BETTER OFF NOT SEEING ME

ARE YOU GOING TO LEAVE HER HERE?
SHE'S NOT HAPPY BEING WITH ME ANYWAY
SHE WOULD GET UPSET AND CROSS.
SELF-WILLED AND STUBBORN THROWING TANTRUMS LIKE A CHILD I DON'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE HER
UPSET? THROWING TANTRUMS?
OUR MISS ..?
I'M TREATED AS ONE OF THE FAMILY MEMBERS
AND I'VE NEVER SEEN HER LIKE THAT, NOT EVEN ONCE.
I DOUBT THE MADAM AND ARARE HAVE EITHER.

PERHAPS ...
IT'S BECAUSE I WAS HATED.
SHE'LL BE MORE PEACEFUL AROUND HER FAMILY THAN WITH ME.
WHEN SHE'S LESS UPSET, I'LL COME AGAIN TO TALK ABOUT THE ARRANGEMENT.
THE ARRANGEMENT? ARE YOU GOING TO END IT?
EXCUSE ME.
HINOYAMA-SAN!

HER FAMILY RIGHT NOW
IS YOU.
OPEN
MISS, THE MEDICINE

RUSTLE
WHO'S IT...?
IT'S ME. I BROUGHT YOU THE MEDICINE. DID I WAKE YOU?
.....
OH...


I'VE BEEN WAITING.
HOW WONDERFUL ...
YOU'VE COME TO GET ME, RIGHT?

Zzzz
NO MORE STOPS?
NO, WE'RE LEAVING

(HEEP
(HEEP
(HEEP

Daifuku

Daifuku

Daifuku (lit."great luck") is a small round mochi (glutinous rice cake) stuffed with sweet filling, most commonly anko. Daifuku comes in many varieties. Some contain whole pieces of fruit, mixtures of fruit and anko or crushed melon paste. Nearly all daifuku are covered in a fine layer of corn or taro starch to keep them from sticking to each other or to the fingers.

Fukuyadon Honpo

by YUCHI Yayomi

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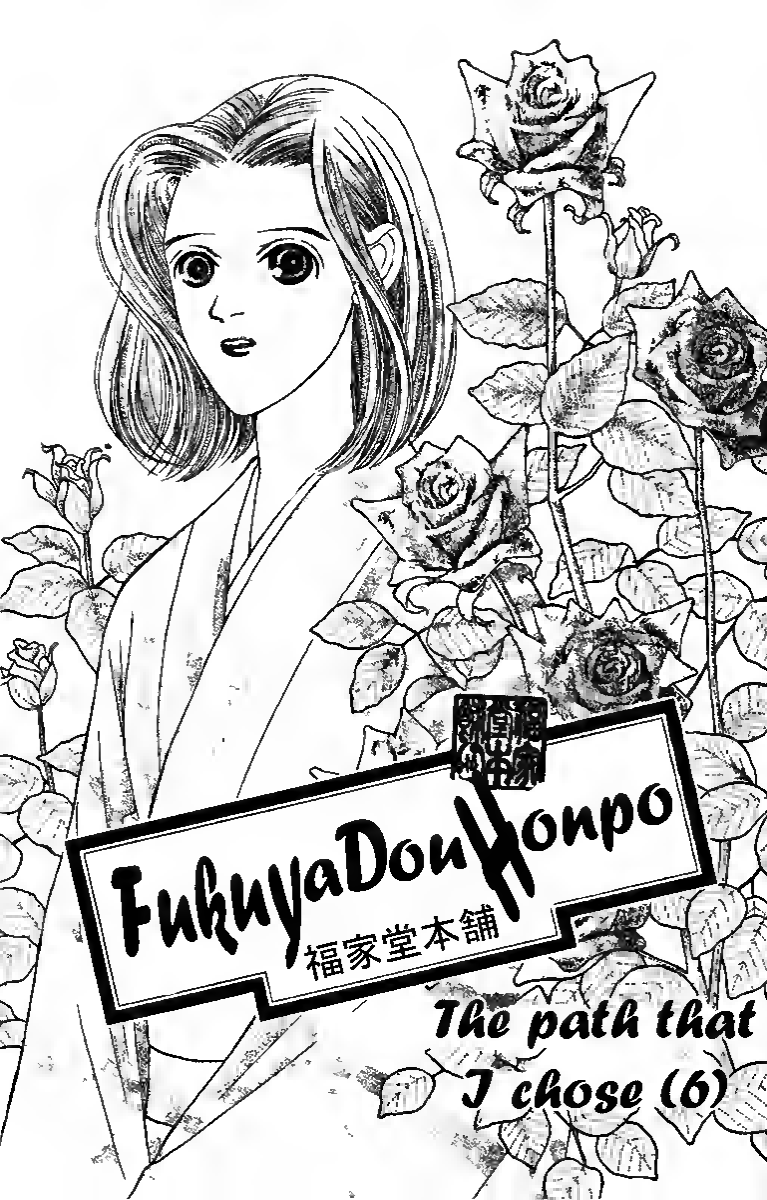
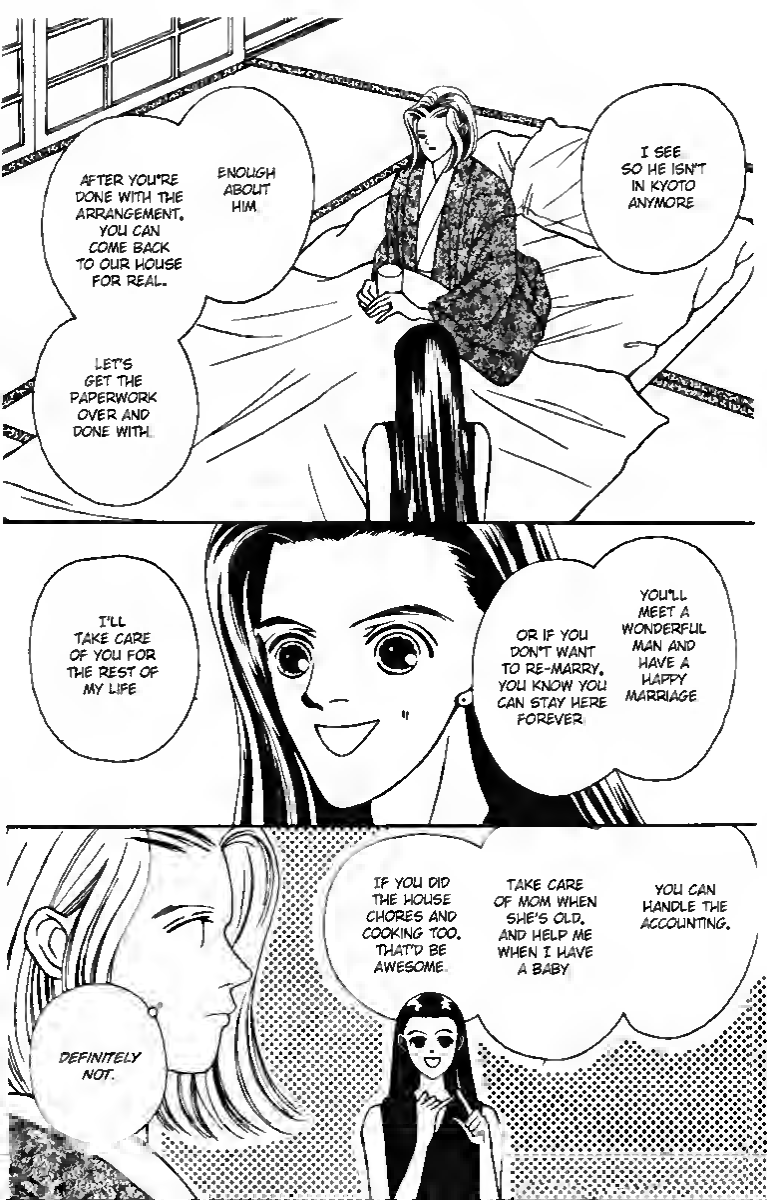
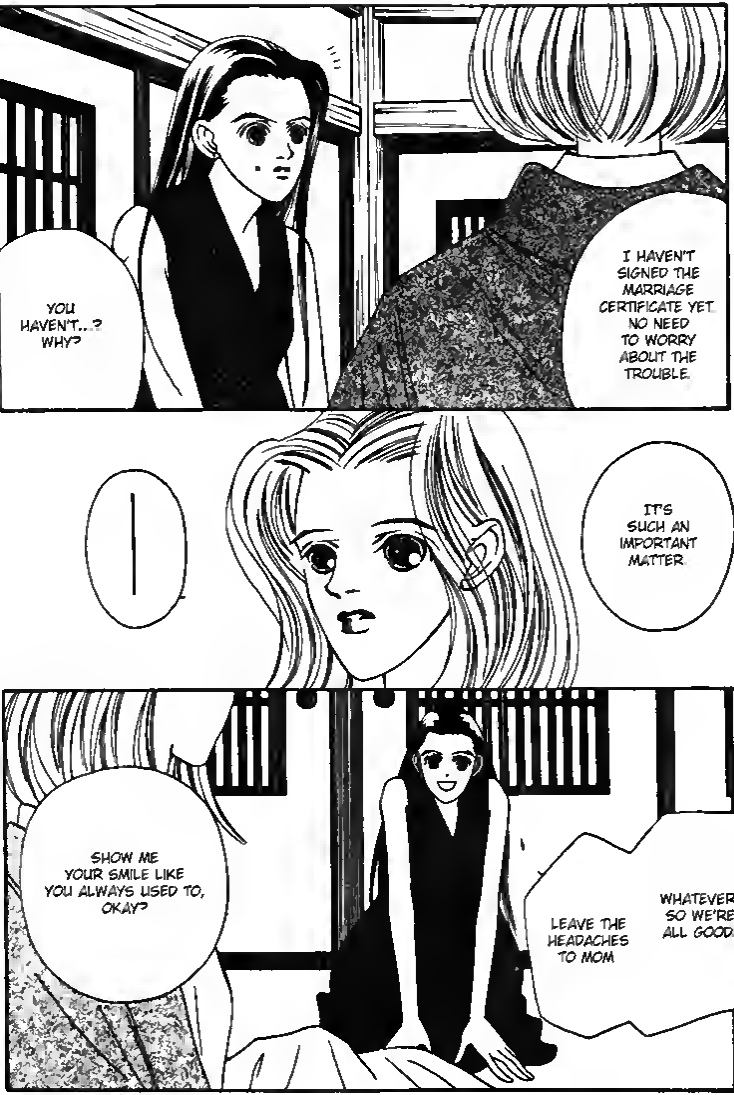
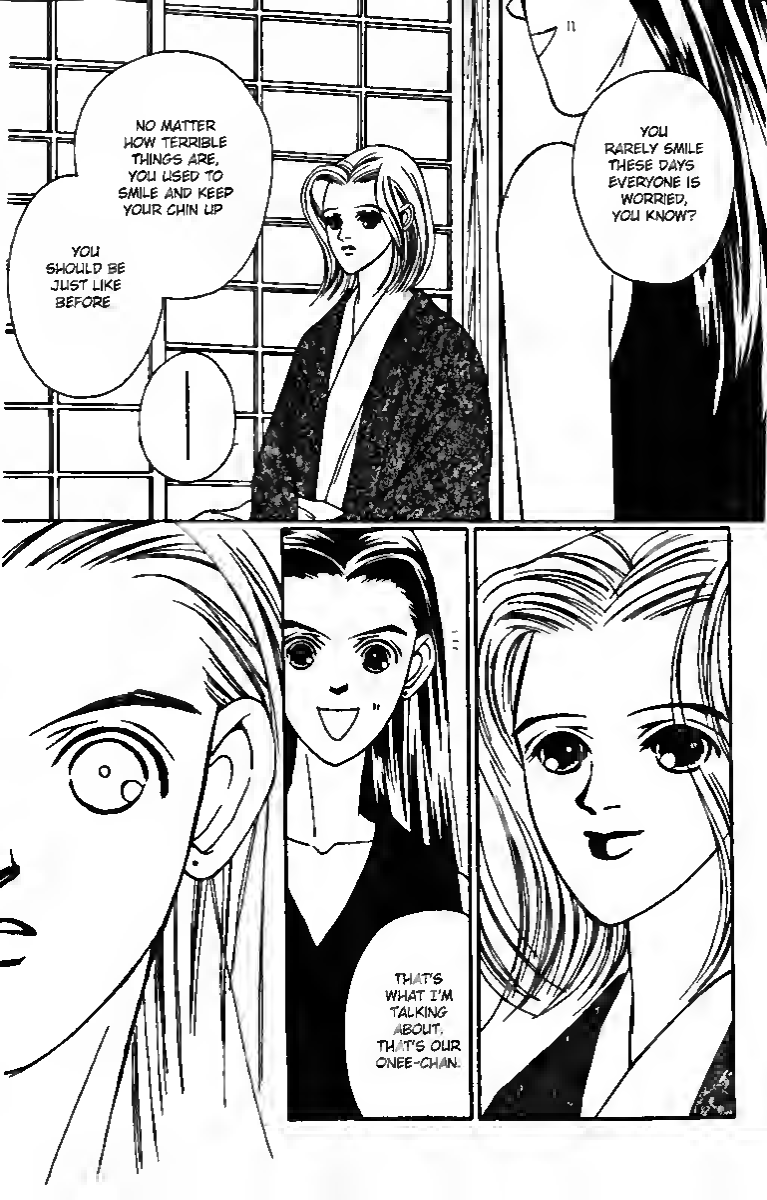

FukuyaDouHonpo
福家堂本舗
The path that
I chose (6)

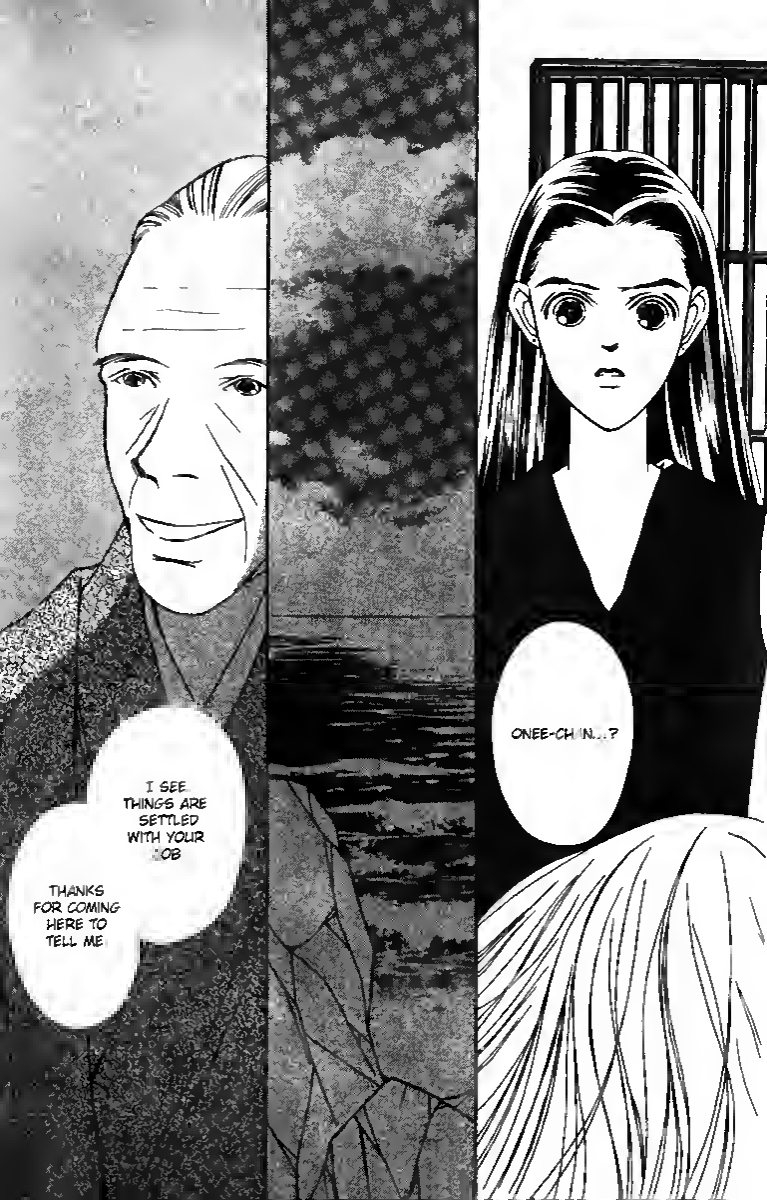
HIS GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE?
YEAH AS IF I CARE
BUT KEN-CHAN ASKED ME TO TELL YOU THAT'S ALL


I SEE SO HE ISN'T IN KYOTO ANYMORE
ENOUGH ABOUT HIM.
AFTER YOU'RE DONE WITH THE ARRANGEMENT, YOU CAN COME BACK TO OUR HOUSE FOR REAL.
LET'S GET THE PAPERWORK OVER AND DONE WITH.
YOU'LL MEET A WONDERFUL MAN AND HAVE A HAPPY MARRIAGE
OR IF YOU DON'T WANT TO RE-MARRY, YOU KNOW YOU CAN STAY HERE FOREVER
I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE
YOU CAN HANDLE THE ACCOUNTING.
TAKE CARE OF MOM WHEN SHE'S OLD, AND HELP ME WHEN I HAVE A BABY
IF YOU DID THE HOUSE CHORES AND COOKING TOO, THAT'D BE AWESOME.
DEFINITELY NOT.


YOU HAVEN'T...? WHY?
I HAVEN'T SIGNED THE MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE YET. NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THE TROUBLE.
I
IT'S SUCH AN IMPORTANT MATTER.
SHOW ME YOUR SMILE LIKE YOU ALWAYS USED TO, OKAY?
LEAVE THE HEADACHES TO MOM
WHATEVER SO WE'RE ALL GOOD.


YOU RARELY SMILE THESE DAYS EVERYONE IS WORRIED, YOU KNOW?
NO MATTER HOW TERRIBLE THINGS ARE, YOU USED TO SMILE AND KEEP YOUR CHIN UP
YOU SHOULD BE JUST LIKE BEFORE
THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT. THAT'S OUR ONEE-CHAN.

I CAN'T KEEP IT UP ANYMORE.
ENOUGH. I DON'T EVEN WANT TO ANYMORE


THANKS FOR COMING HERE TO TELL ME
I SEE THINGS ARE SETTLED WITH YOUR JOB
ONEE-CHAN...?

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO GO OUT AND LEARN MANY THINGS
AFTER THIS, I THINK I'LL TAKE A BREAK HERE FOR A WHILE..
FOR A WHILE?! JUST YOU? WHAT ABOUT HINA-CHAN?
SHE WENT BACK HOME.
ZAA ZAA ZAA
IT DIDN'T WORK OUT.

IS THAT SO... THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE
IF YOU WANTED TO TELL ME ABOUT YOUR JOB,
YOU COULD HAVE JUST CALLED
INSTEAD, YOU RAN ALL THE WAY HERE...

LEAVING YOUR FAMILY BEHIND
KAORU, I FEEL THAT I OWE A GREAT DEAL TO TAMAO, YOUR MOTHER.
—

THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO MEDDLE WITH YOUR MARRIAGE.
AND WE ENDED UP HURTING SATOKO.
YOUR FATHER AND MAMEJAKU TOO.
BUT YOU WERE THE ONE THAT PLEADED WITH ME ABOUT HINA-CHAN REMEMBER?
IF ONLY YOU HAD NEVER LEFT THIS PLACE...
IF ONLY YOU HADN'T ABANDONED US
YOU TURNED YOUR BACK ON YOUR FAMILY WHEN WE WERE IN PAIN

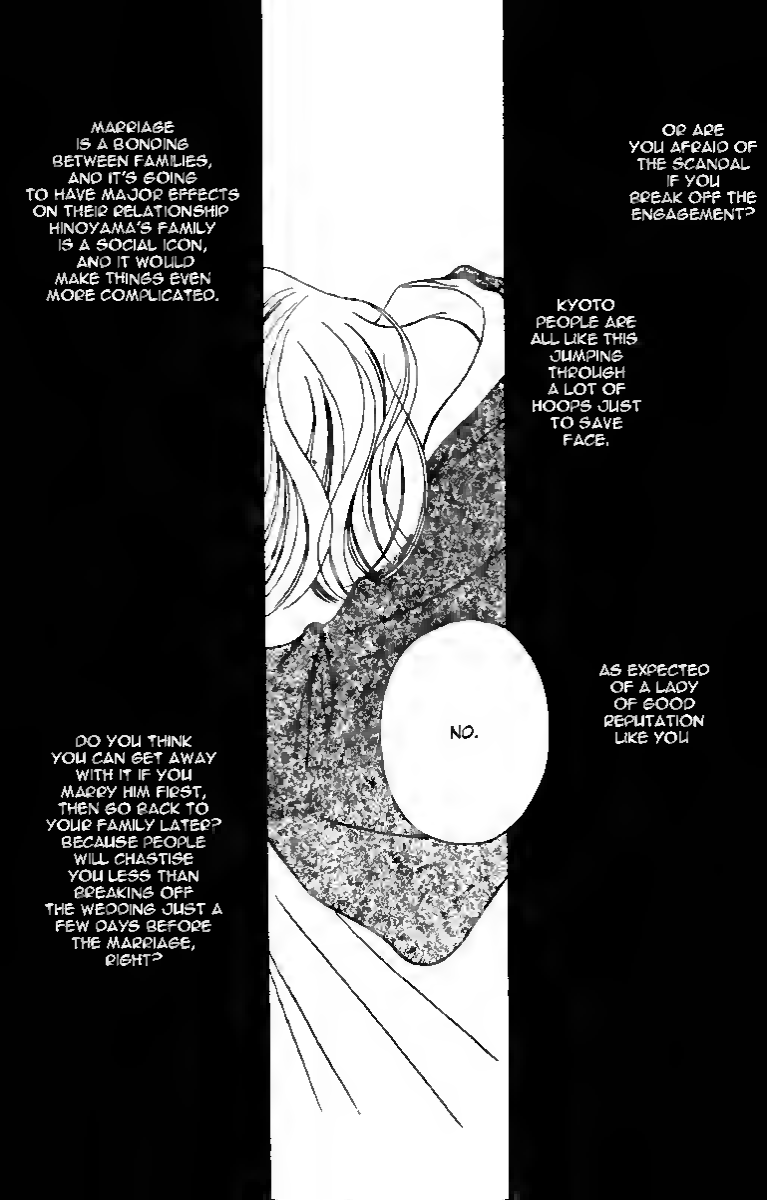
THAT TIME...
I COULDN'T FORGIVE MY MOTHER FOR LEAVING US FOR HERSELF.
HINOYAMA-SAN!
SHE'D BE MORE PEACEFUL AROUND HER FAMILY THAN WITH ME

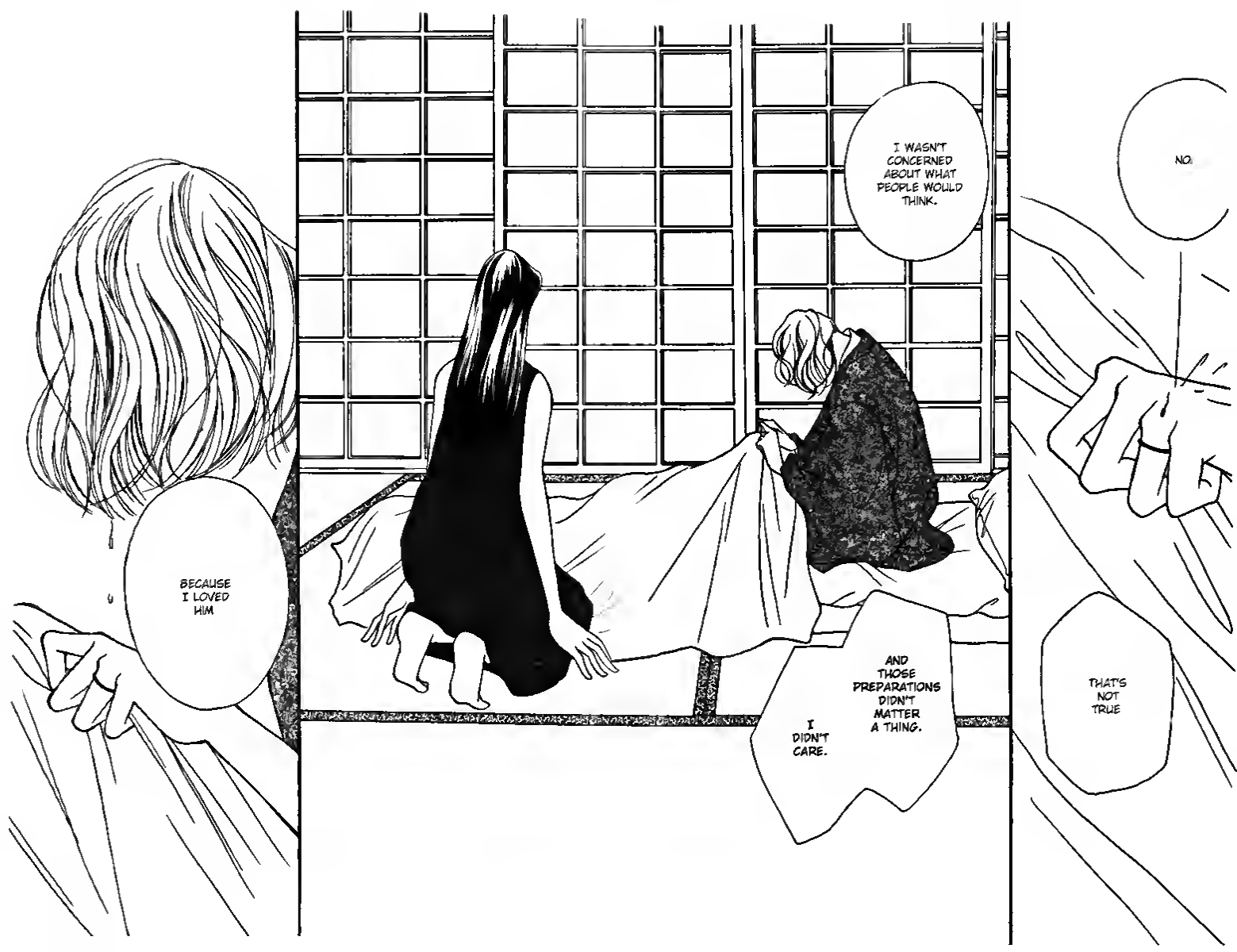
I'M GOING BACK
AND RAN AWAY HERE.
IN THE END, I WAS THE ONE WHO LEFT HINA-SAN BEHIND
I'LL GO BACK TO KYOTO.
LOOKS LIKE I'VE MADE A MISTAKE

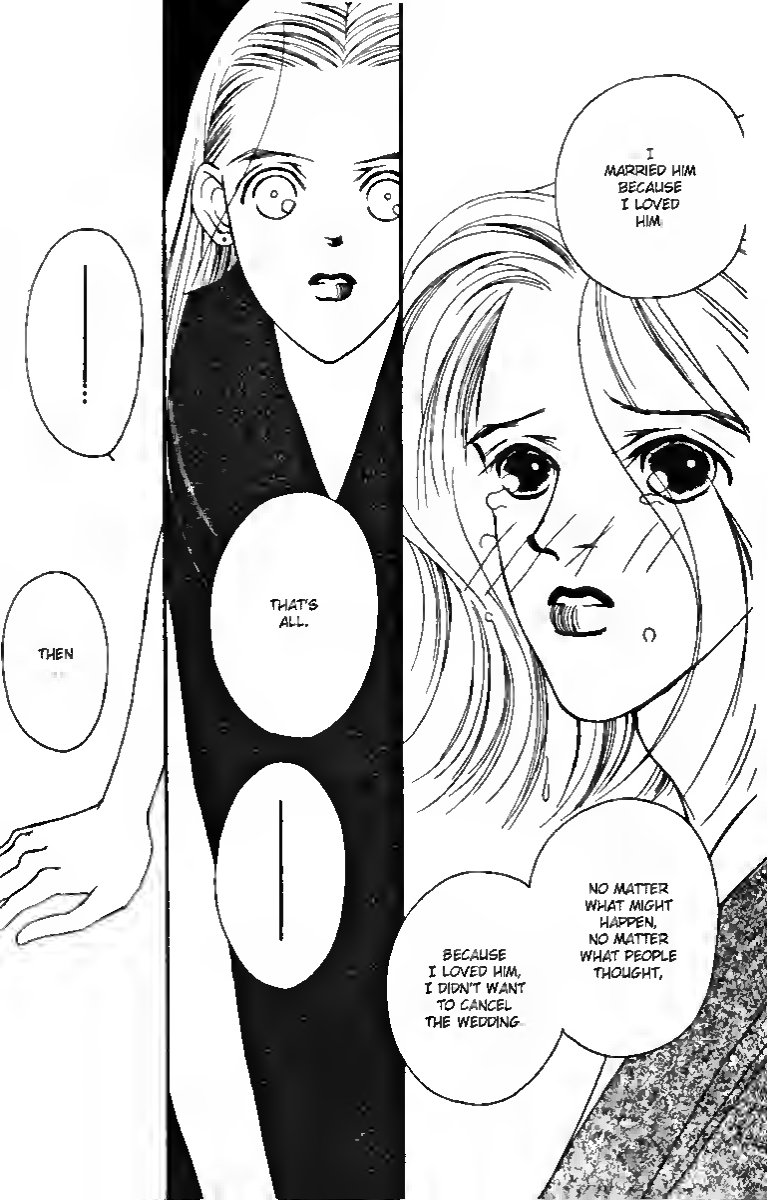
I'LL TRY TO TALK WITH HER AGAIN.
I WANT TO START OVER WITH HER AGAIN.
GOOD. DON'T GIVE KOMAKO ANY MORE REASON TO SCOLD ME.
ONEE-CHAN!
WHAT'S WRONG?
WAS IT SOMETHING I SAID?

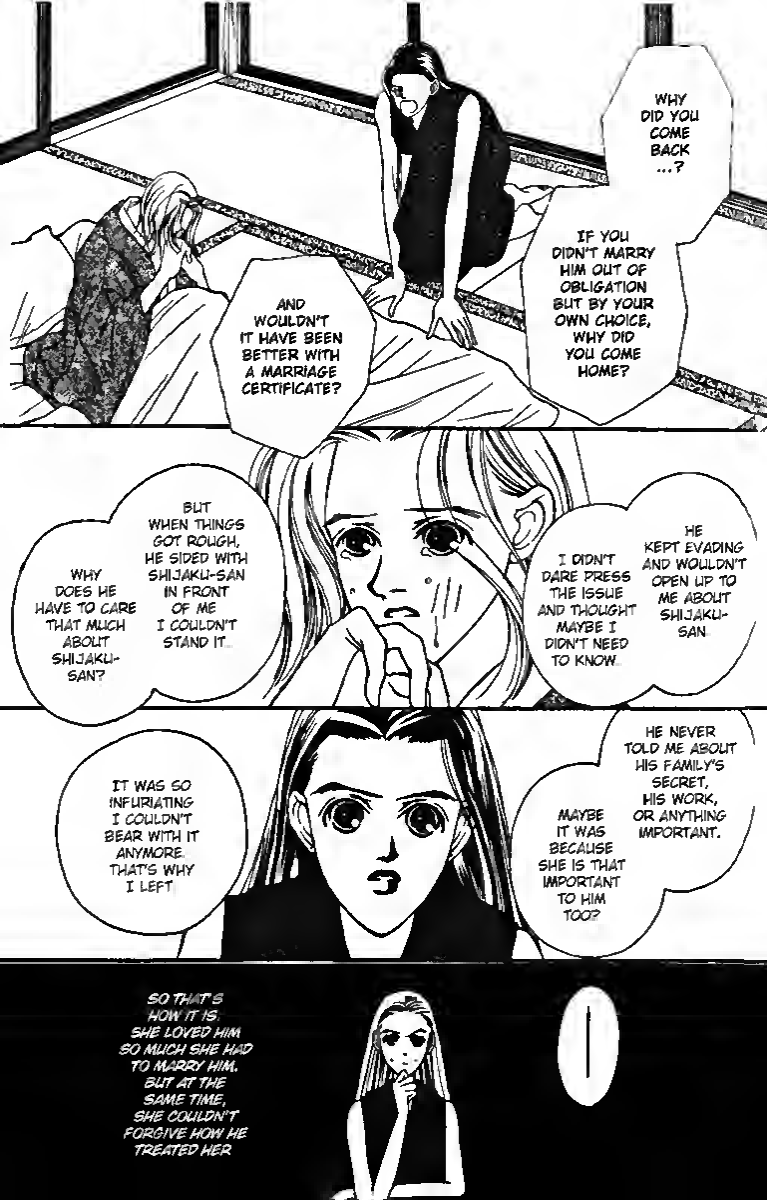
I THOUGHT I WAS ALREADY USED TO THROWING AWAY MY FEELINGS.
IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT YOU COULDN'T BEAR IT. YOU MARRIED HIM OUT OF OBLIGATION.
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU WERE MADLY IN LOVE WITH HIM OR SOMETHING.
I VOWED TO HAVE A COMPLETE CONTROL OF MYSELF, HIDING EVERYTHING WITH A SMILE
BUT WHAT'S THIS?
I COULDN'T EVEN ENDURE THREE DAYS.

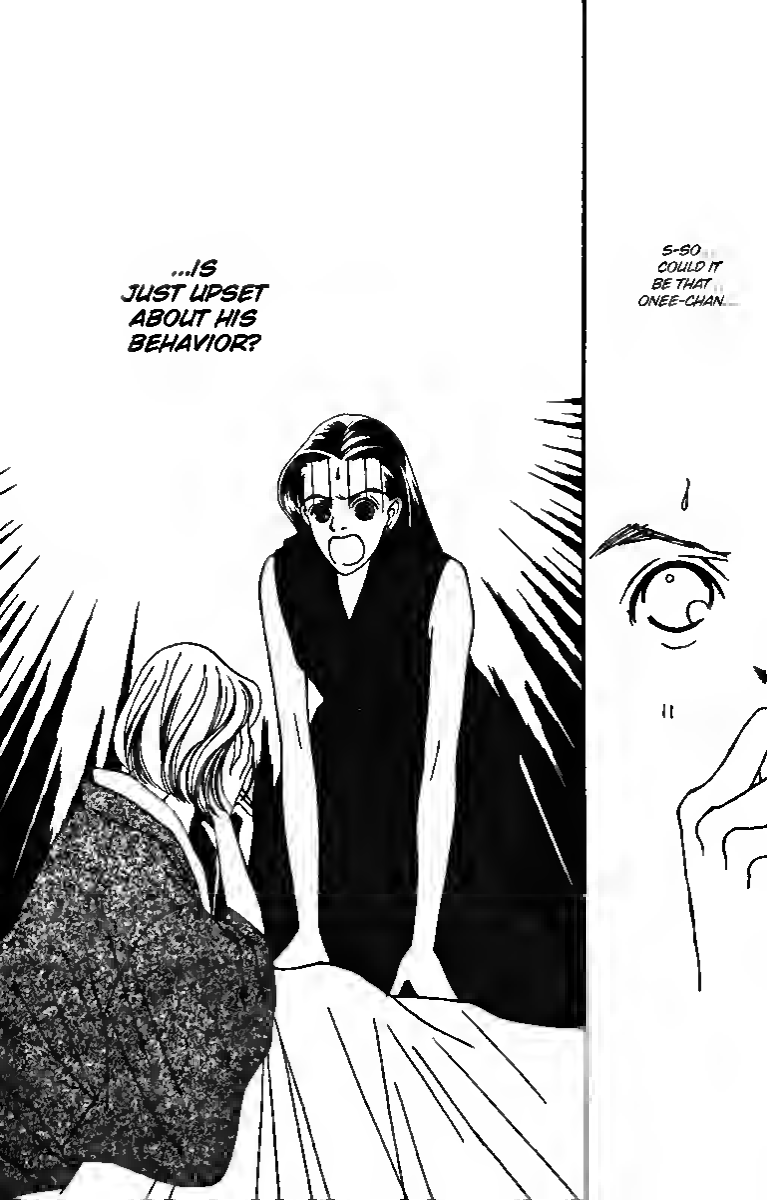
SAYING SOMETHING LIKE IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, THEN WHY DID YOU MARRY HIM?
WAS IT YOUR AMBITION? FOR THE STATUS OR FOR HIS MONEY? OR TO REPAY SOMEONE?
I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU MARRIED HIM
CARING TOO MUCH ABOUT WHAT OTHERS WOULD THINK AND TYING YOURSELF UP IN A MESS LIKE THIS
BUT YOU WERE AT FAULT TOO
YOU SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO ME. TO HELL WITH THOSE PREPARATIONS. LET THEM TALK.
IF YOU HAD CANCELED THE WEDDING, THINGS WOULDN'T HAVE TURNED OUT AS TERRIBLE AS THIS.

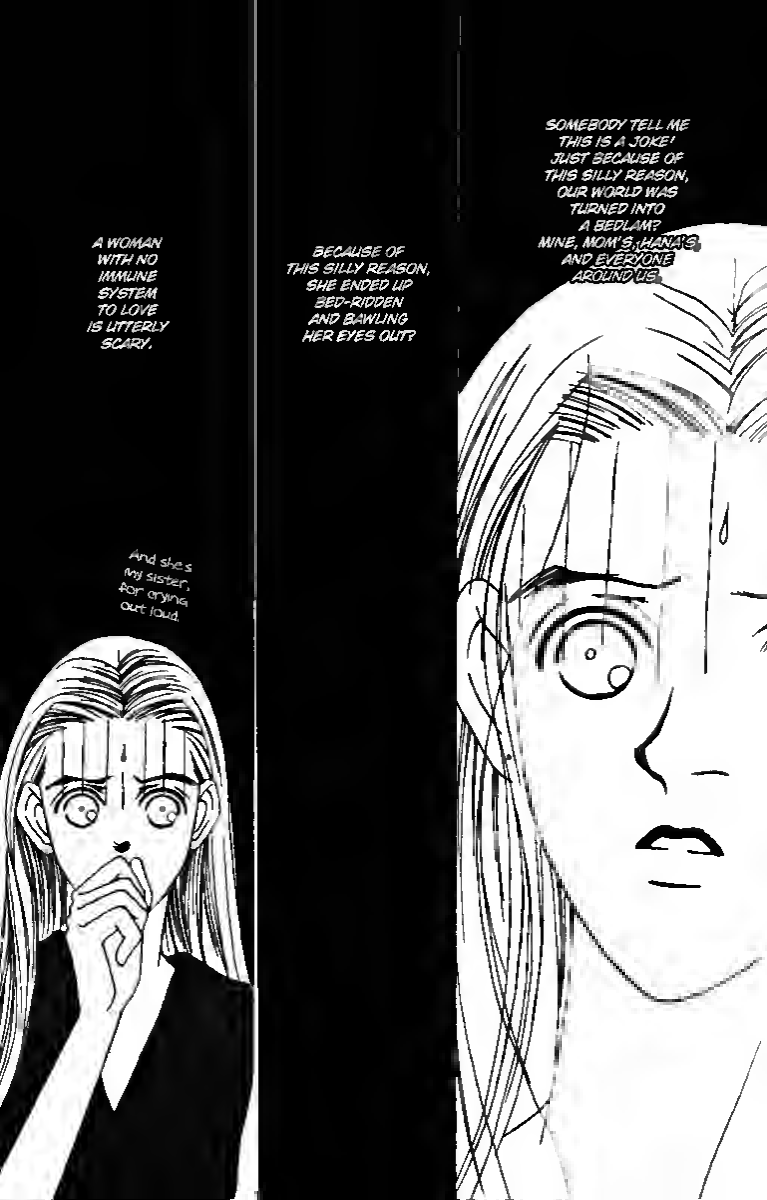

MARRIAGE IS A BONDING BETWEEN FAMILIES, AND IT'S GOING TO HAVE MAJOR EFFECTS ON THEIR RELATIONSHIP HINOYAMA'S FAMILY IS A SOCIAL ICON, AND IT WOULD MAKE THINGS EVEN MORE COMPLICATED.
OR ARE YOU AFRAID OF THE SCANDAL IF YOU BREAK OFF THE ENGAGEMENT?
KYOTO PEOPLE ARE ALL LIKE THIS JUMPING THROUGH A LOT OF HOOPS JUST TO SAVE FACE.
NO.
AS EXPECTED OF A LADY OF GOOD REPUTATION LIKE YOU
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH IT IF YOU MARRY HIM FIRST, THEN GO BACK TO YOUR FAMILY LATER? BECAUSE PEOPLE WILL CHASTISE YOU LESS THAN BREAKING OFF THE WEDDING JUST A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE MARRIAGE, RIGHT?

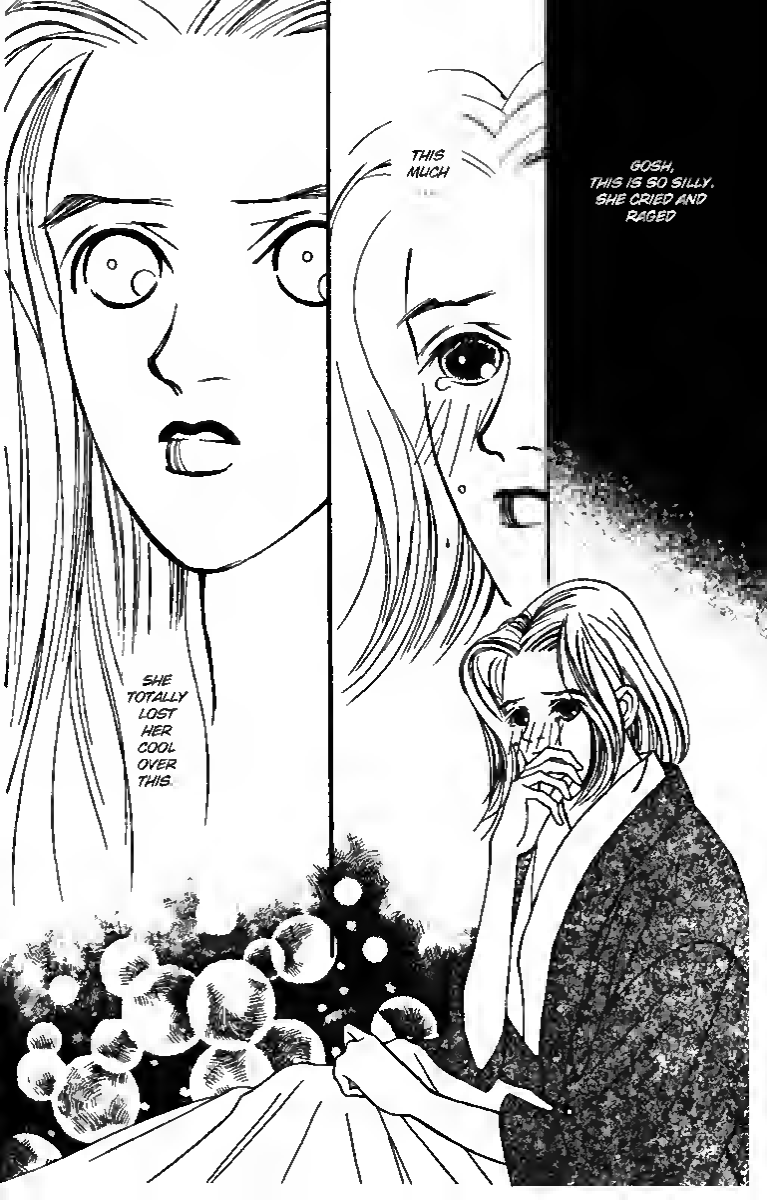

I WASN'T CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE WOULD THINK.
AND THOSE PREPARATIONS DIDN'T MATTER A THING.
I DIDN'T CARE.
BECAUSE I LOVED HIM
NO
THAT'S NOT TRUE


I MARRIED HIM BECAUSE I LOVED HIM.
NO MATTER WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN, NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT,
BECAUSE I LOVED HIM, I DIDN'T WANT TO CANCEL THE WEDDING
THAT'S ALL.
THEN

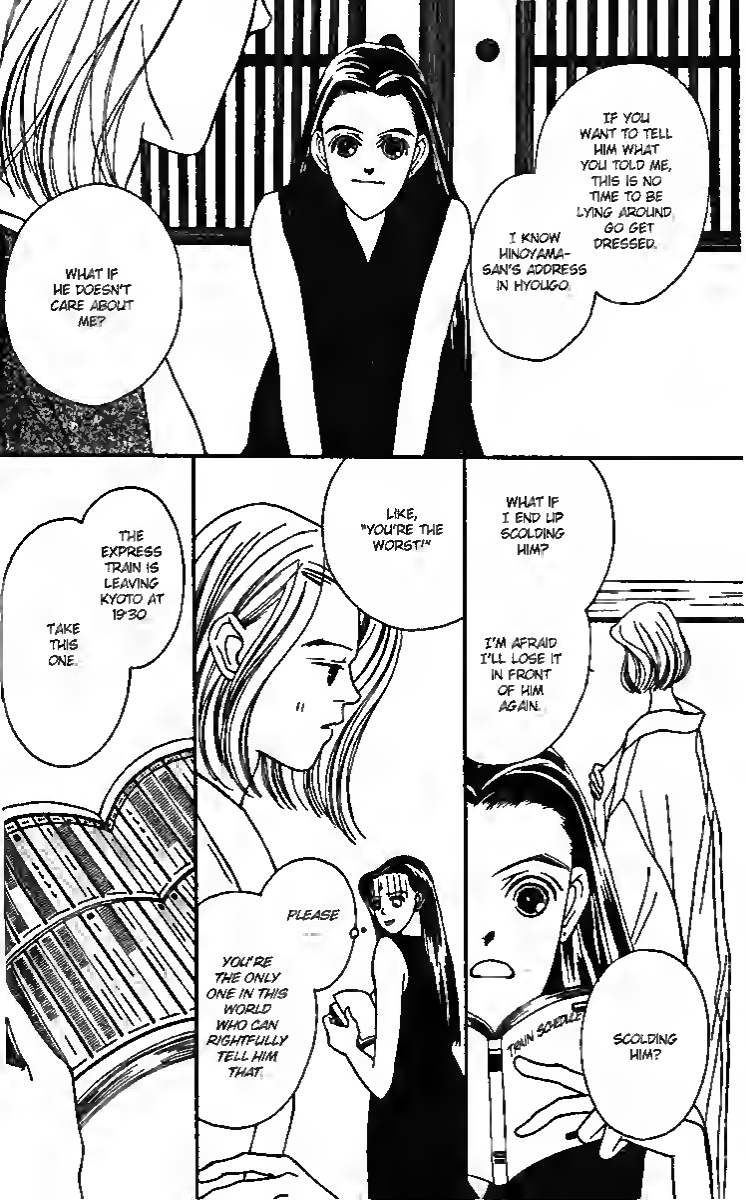

WHY DID YOU COME BACK ...?
IF YOU DIDN'T MARRY HIM OUT OF OBLIGATION BUT BY YOUR OWN CHOICE, WHY DID YOU COME HOME?
AND WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN BETTER WITH A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE?
HE KEPT EVADING AND WOULDN'T OPEN UP TO ME ABOUT SHIJAKU-SAN
I DIDN'T DARE PRESS THE ISSUE AND THOUGHT MAYBE I DIDN'T NEED TO KNOW.
BUT WHEN THINGS GOT ROUGH, HE SIDED WITH SHIJAKU-SAN IN FRONT OF ME I COULDN'T STAND IT.
WHY DOES HE HAVE TO CARE THAT MUCH ABOUT SHIJAKU-SAN?
HE NEVER TOLD ME ABOUT HIS FAMILY'S SECRET, HIS WORK, OR ANYTHING IMPORTANT.
MAYBE IT WAS BECAUSE SHE IS THAT IMPORTANT TO HIM TOO?
IT WAS SO INFURIATING I COULDN'T BEAR WITH IT ANYMORE. THAT'S WHY I LEFT.
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS. SHE LOVED HIM SO MUCH SHE HAD TO MARRY HIM. BUT AT THE SAME TIME, SHE COULDN'T FORGIVE HOW HE TREATED HER
I

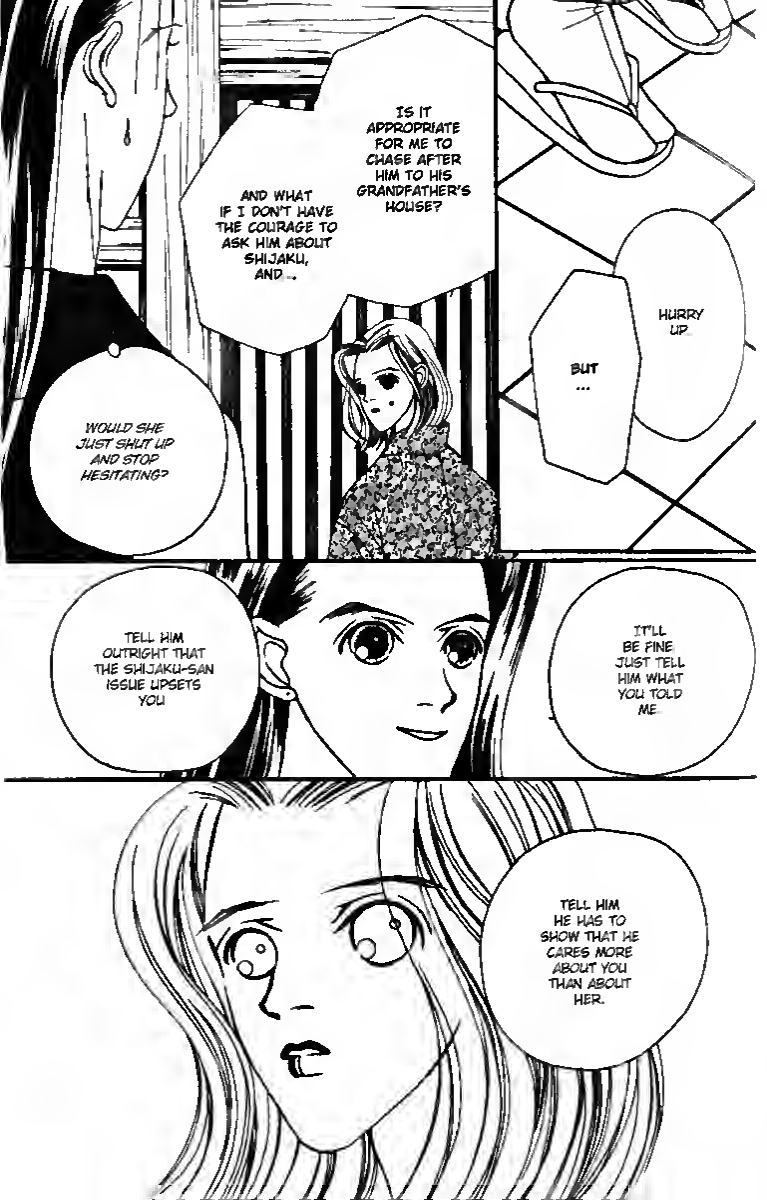

...IS JUST UPSET ABOUT HIS BEHAVIOR?
S-SO... COULD IT BE THAT ONEE-CHAN...

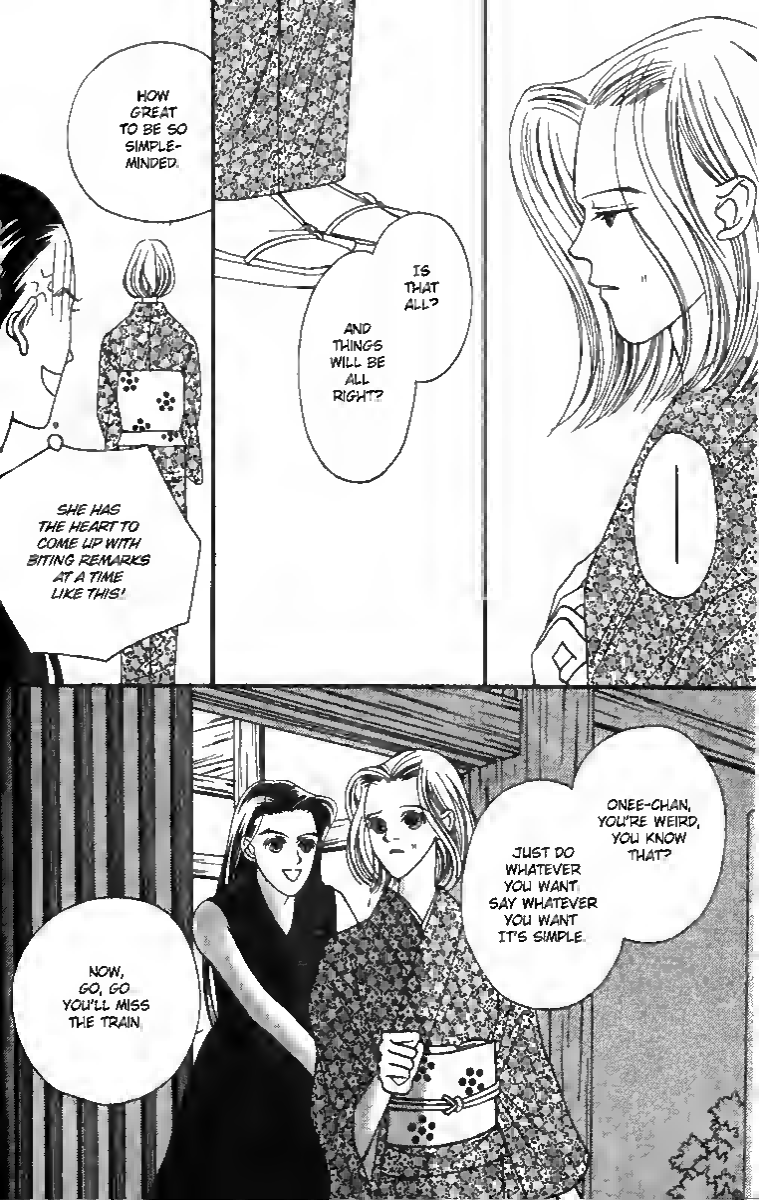

SOMEBODY TELL ME THIS IS A JOKE! JUST BECAUSE OF THIS SILLY REASON, OUR WORLD WAS TURNED INTO A BEDLAM? MINE, MOM'S, HANA'S, AND EVERYONE AROUND US.
BECAUSE OF THIS SILLY REASON, SHE ENDED UP BED-RIDDEN AND BAWLING HER EYES OUT?
A WOMAN WITH NO IMMUNE SYSTEM TO LOVE IS LITTERLY SCARY.
And she's my sister, for crying out loud.

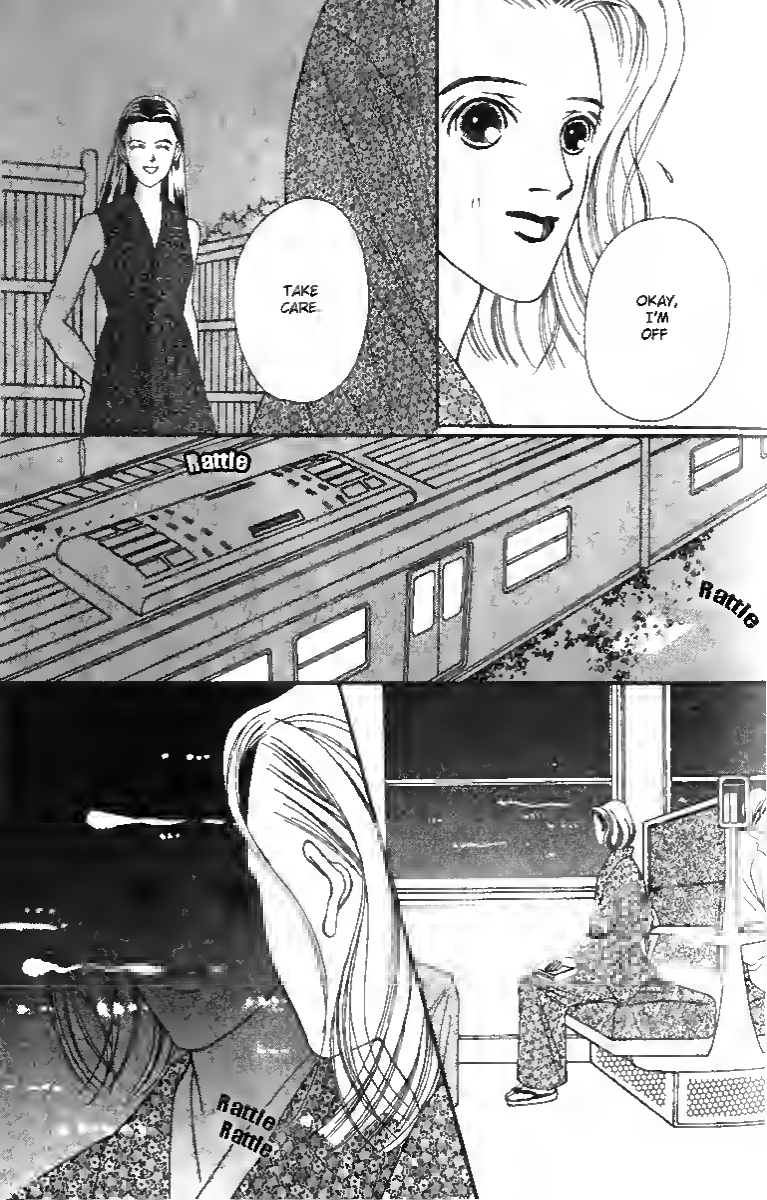

GOSH, THIS IS SO SILLY. SHE CRIED AND RAGED
THIS MUCH
SHE TOTALLY LOST HER COOL OVER THIS.

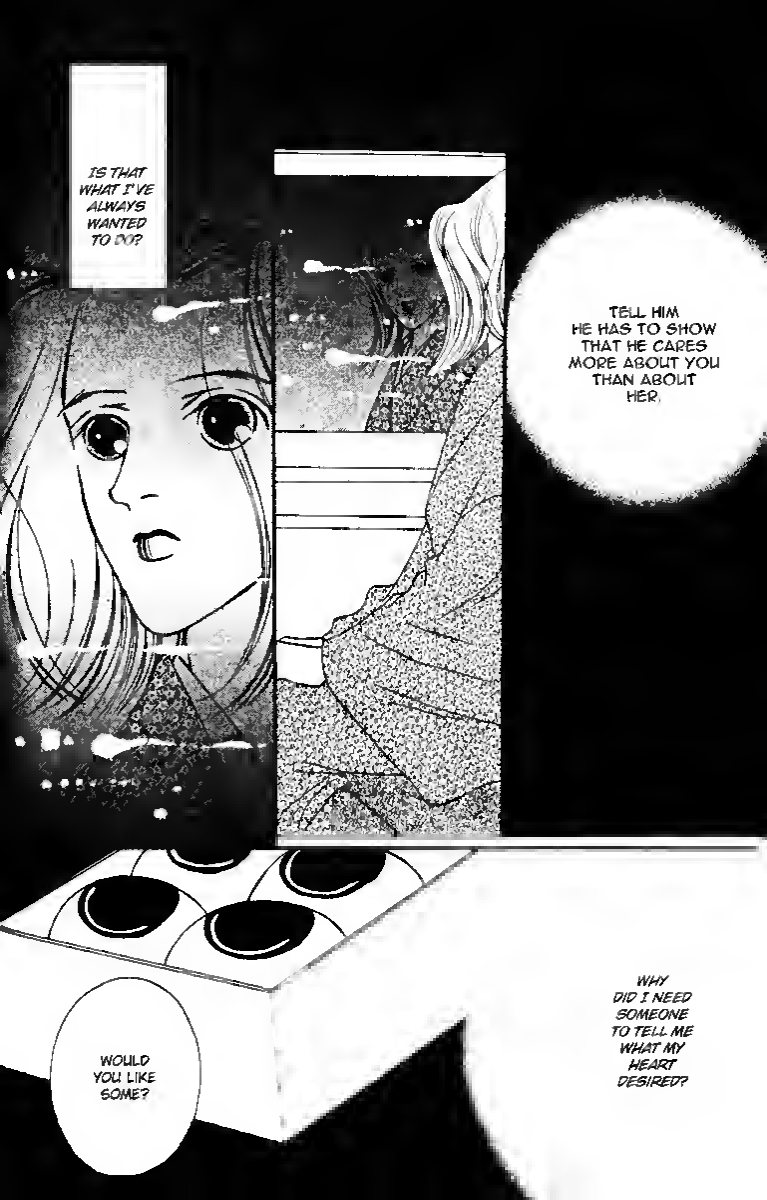
AND SHE USED TO ALWAYS BE CALM AND COLLECTED.
YET I...
I HAVE NEVER SEEN ONEE-CHAN THIS CUTE BEFORE?
YOU CAN STILL MAKE IT.

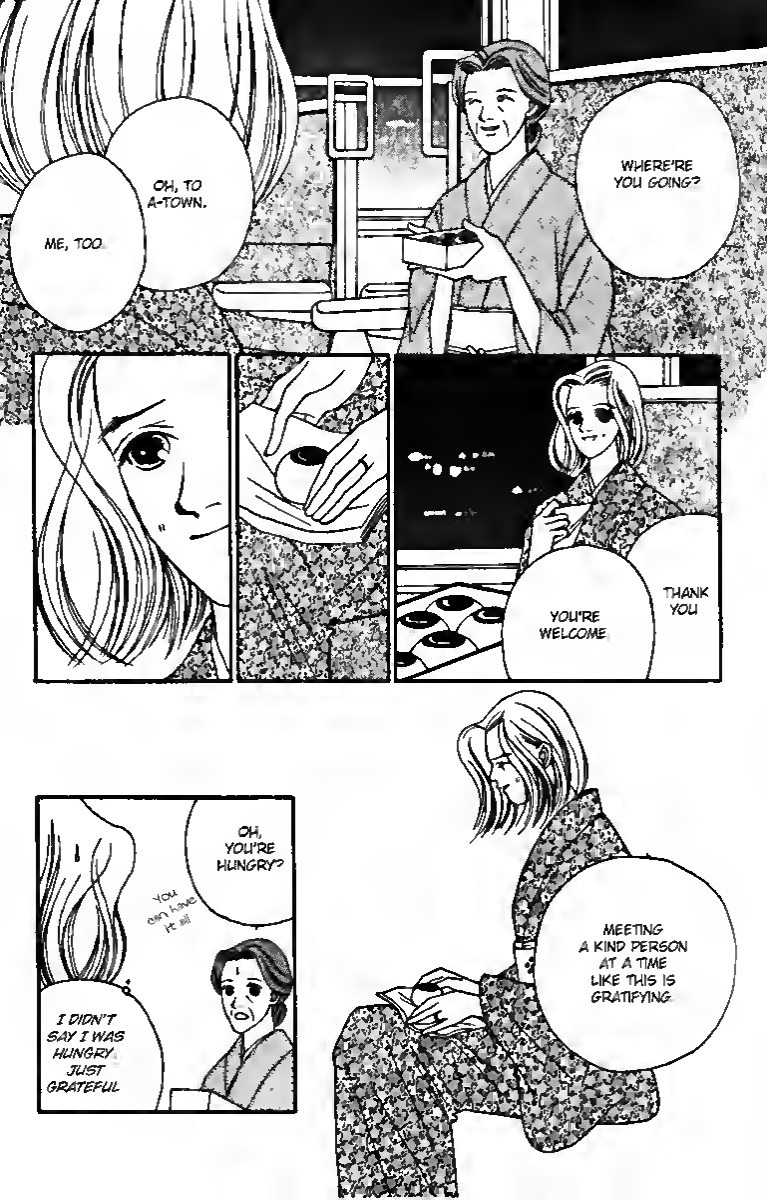

WHAT IF HE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME?
I KNOW HINOYAMA-SAN'S ADDRESS IN HYOUGO.
IF YOU WANT TO TELL HIM WHAT YOU TOLD ME, THIS IS NO TIME TO BE LYING AROUND. GO GET DRESSED.
TAKE THIS ONE.
THE EXPRESS TRAIN IS LEAVING KYOTO AT 19:30
!!
LIKE, "YOU'RE THE WORST!"
PLEASE
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN THIS WORLD WHO CAN RIGHTFULLY TELL HIM THAT.
I'M AFRAID I'LL LOSE IT IN FRONT OF HIM AGAIN.
WHAT IF I END UP SCOLDING HIM?
TRAIN SCHEDULE
SCOLDING HIM?

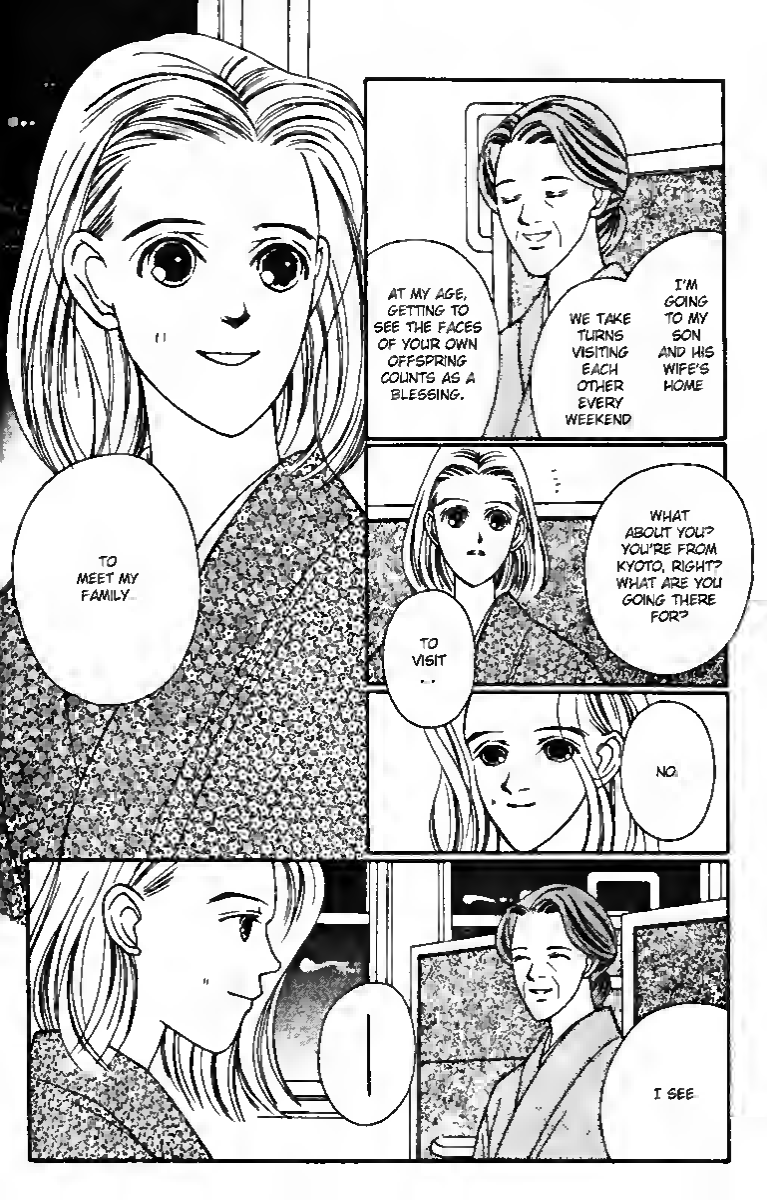

WOULD SHE JUST SHUT UP AND STOP HESITATING?
AND WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO ASK HIM ABOUT SHIJAKU, AND...
IS IT APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO CHASE AFTER HIM TO HIS GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE?
BUT ...
HURRY UP.
TELL HIM OUTRIGHT THAT THE SHIJAKU-SAN ISSUE UPSETS YOU
IT'LL BE FINE JUST TELL HIM WHAT YOU TOLD ME.
TELL HIM HE HAS TO SHOW THAT HE CARES MORE ABOUT YOU THAN ABOUT HER.


HOW GREAT TO BE SO SIMPLE-MINDED.
SHE HAS THE HEART TO COME UP WITH BITING REMARKS AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
IS THAT ALL?
AND THINGS WILL BE ALL RIGHT?
—
ONEE-CHAN, YOU'RE WEIRD, YOU KNOW THAT?
JUST DO WHATEVER YOU WANT. SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT. IT'S SIMPLE.
NOW, GO, GO. YOU'LL MISS THE TRAIN.

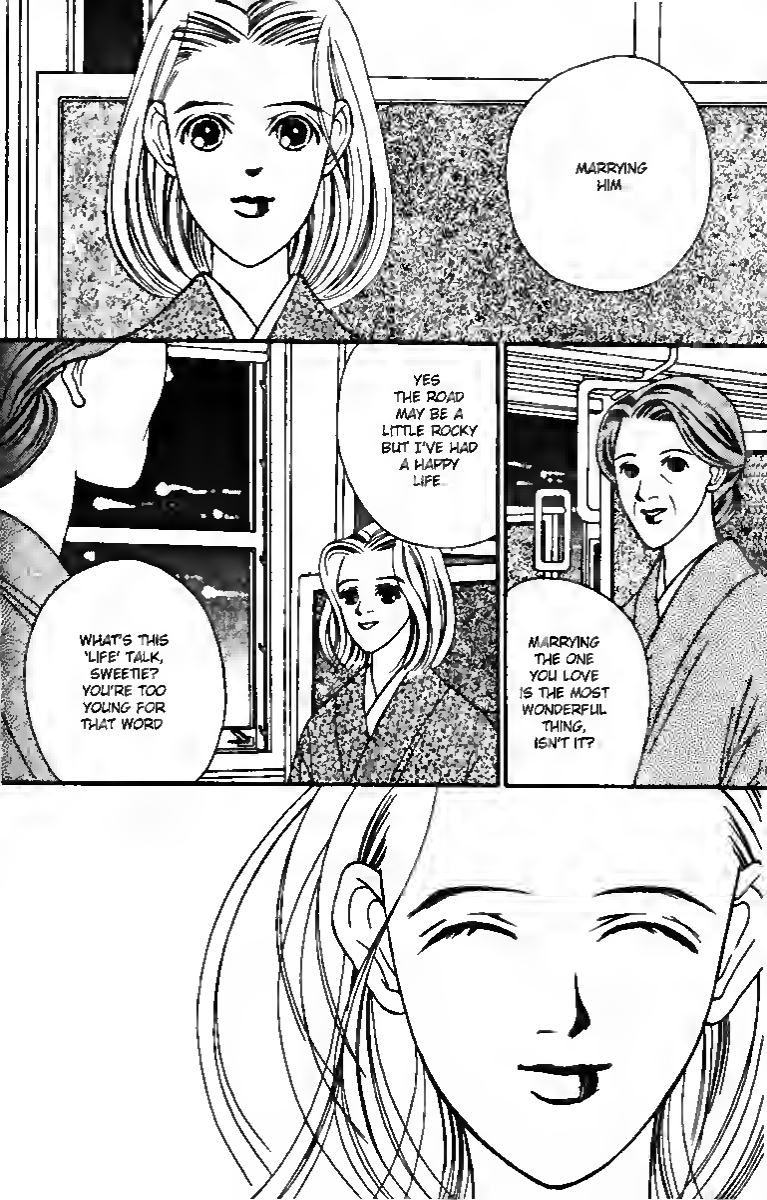

TAKE CARE
OKAY, I'M OFF
Rattle
Rattle
Rattle
Rattle

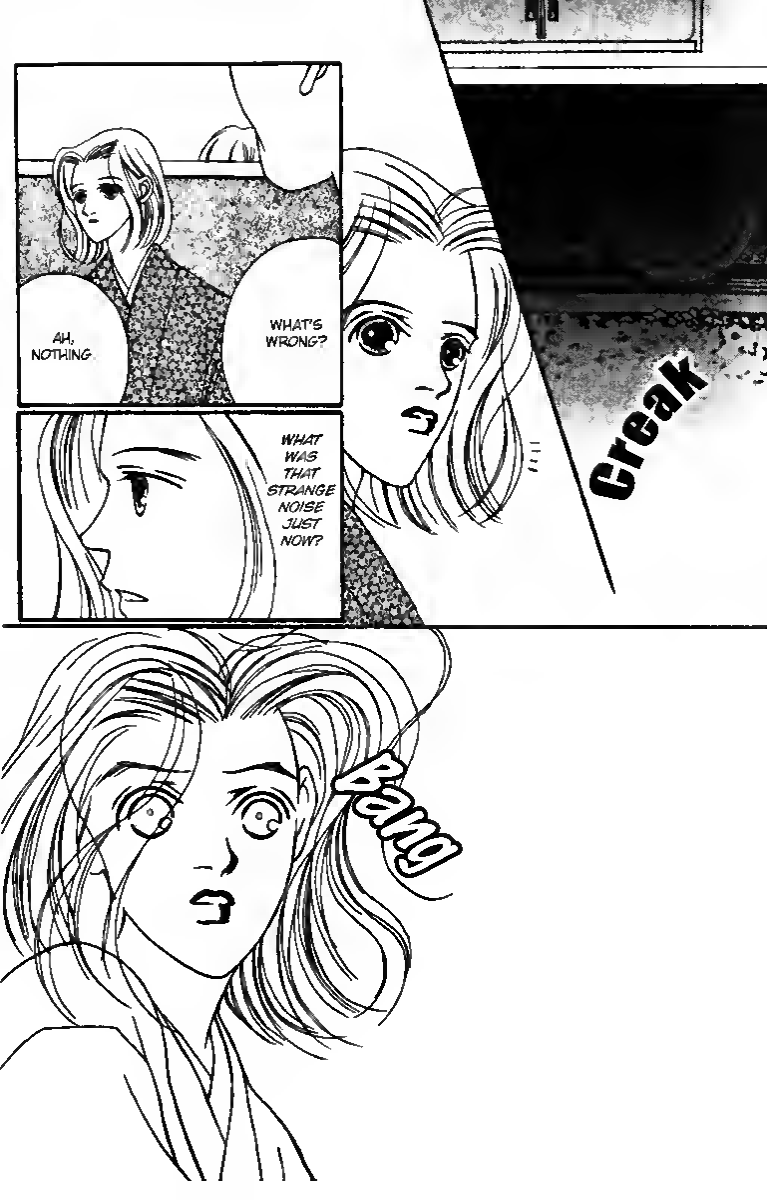

IS THAT WHAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO?
TELL HIM HE HAS TO SHOW THAT HE CARES MORE ABOUT YOU THAN ABOUT HER.
WHY DID I NEED SOMEONE TO TELL ME WHAT MY HEART DESIRED?
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?


WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
OH, TO A-TOWN.
ME, TOO.
THANK YOU
YOU'RE WELCOME.
MEETING A KIND PERSON AT A TIME LIKE THIS IS GRATIFYING.
OH, YOU'RE HUNGRY?
YOU CAN HAVE IT!!
I DIDN'T SAY I WAS HUNGRY. JUST GRATEFUL.


I'M GOING TO MY SON AND HIS WIFE'S HOME
WE TAKE TURNS VISITING EACH OTHER EVERY WEEKEND
AT MY AGE, GETTING TO SEE THE FACES OF YOUR OWN OFFSPRING COUNTS AS A BLESSING.
WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU'RE FROM KYOTO, RIGHT? WHAT ARE YOU GOING THERE FOR?
NO.
TO VISIT . . .
I SEE
TO MEET MY FAMILY.

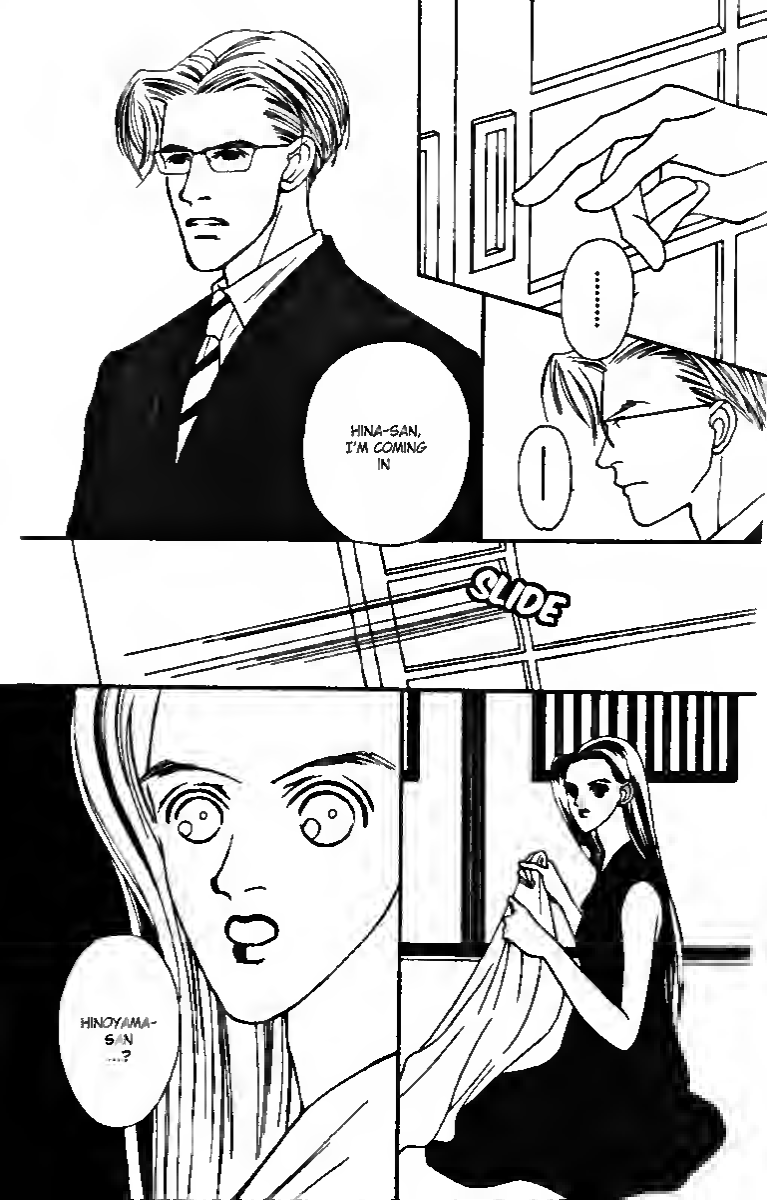
MY HOUSE IS A WAGASHI SHOP
AS A CHILD, I HATED IT WITH A PASSION
BUT SEEING MY FATHER AND MY GRANDFATHER SO ABSORBED IN MAKING ANKO, I COULDN'T SAY ALOUD THAT I HATED IT
EVERYDAY WHEN I CAME HOME FROM SCHOOL, THE SMELL OF ANKO* SATURATED THROUGH THE HOUSE
I'M WHAT YOU CALL A MODEL DAUGHTER. I ALWAYS OBLIGED MY PARENT'S DEMANDS AND NEVER HAD AN OPINION FOR MYSELF,
EXCEPT FOR...
*QC Note: Anko is a red bean paste used in many Japanese sweets


MARRYING HIM
YES THE ROAD MAY BE A LITTLE ROCKY BUT I'VE HAD A HAPPY LIFE
MARRYING THE ONE YOU LOVE IS THE MOST WONDERFUL THING, ISN'T IT?
WHAT'S THIS 'LIFE' TALK, SWEETIE? YOU'RE TOO YOUNG FOR THAT WORD


AH, NOTHING
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT WAS THAT STRANGE NOISE JUST NOW?
Creak
Bang

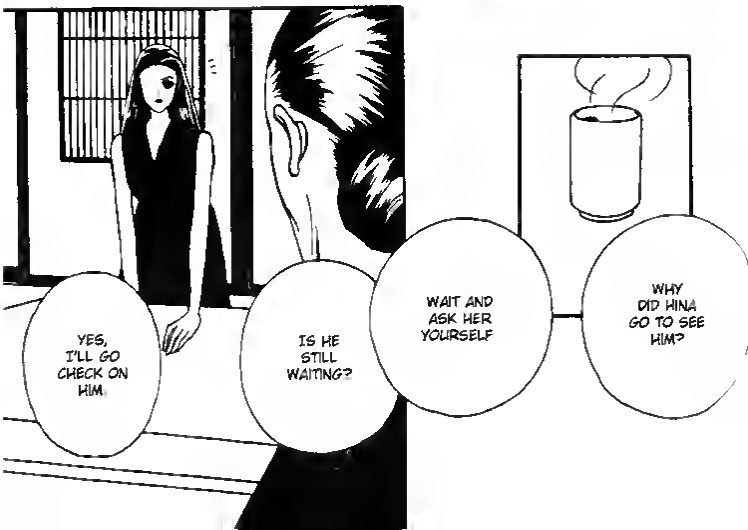
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU CARE ABOUT HINA ANYMORE OR YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ALLOWED THINGS TO DRAG OUT THIS LONG.
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO SEE HINA-SAN
LET US TALK IT OUT ONE MORE TI
ARE YOU DEAF?
GO HOME FOR TODAY
I'M CLOSING THE SHOP. PLEASE GO.
WHO MADE HER COME BACK HOME IN THAT STATE
I SAID I WOULDN'T LET MY DAUGHTER SEE THE MAN

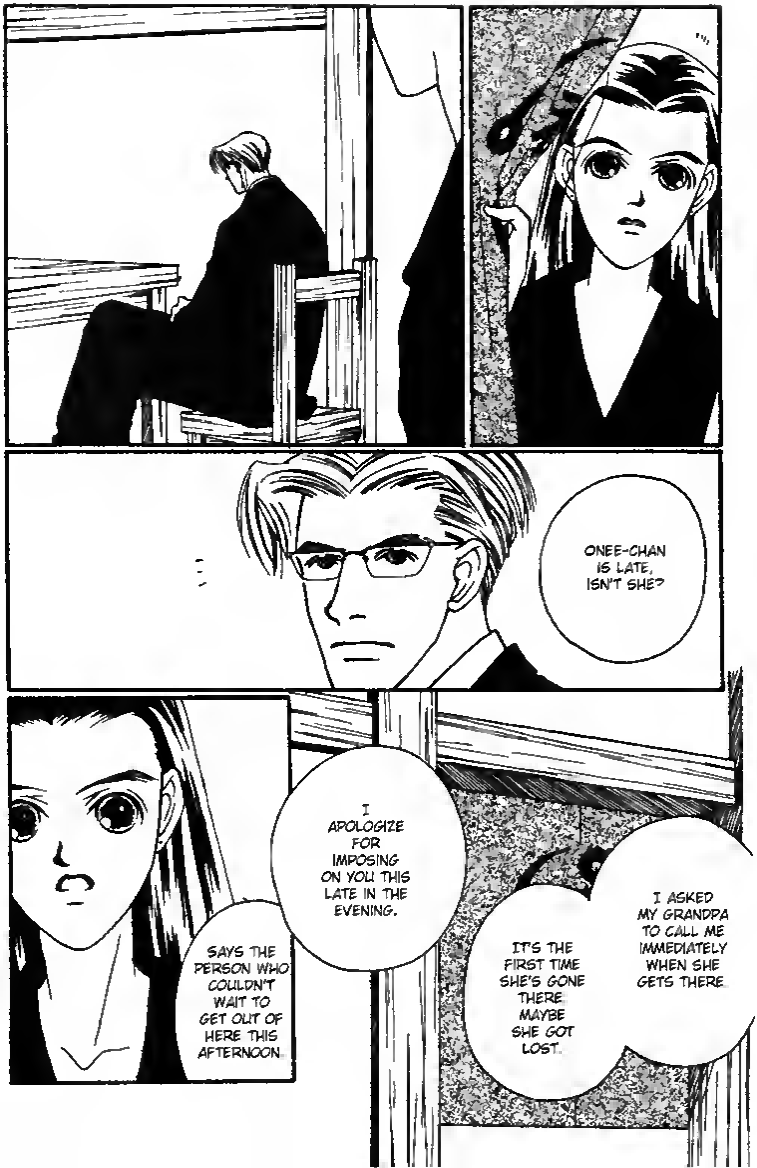
PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
YOUNG MAN!
WAIT!
HANA-CHAN.
HINOYAMA-SAN...?
WHERE'S HINA-SAN?
SHE'S PROBABLY SLEEPING IN HER ROOM. UHM
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
THIS ROOM?
UH, YES

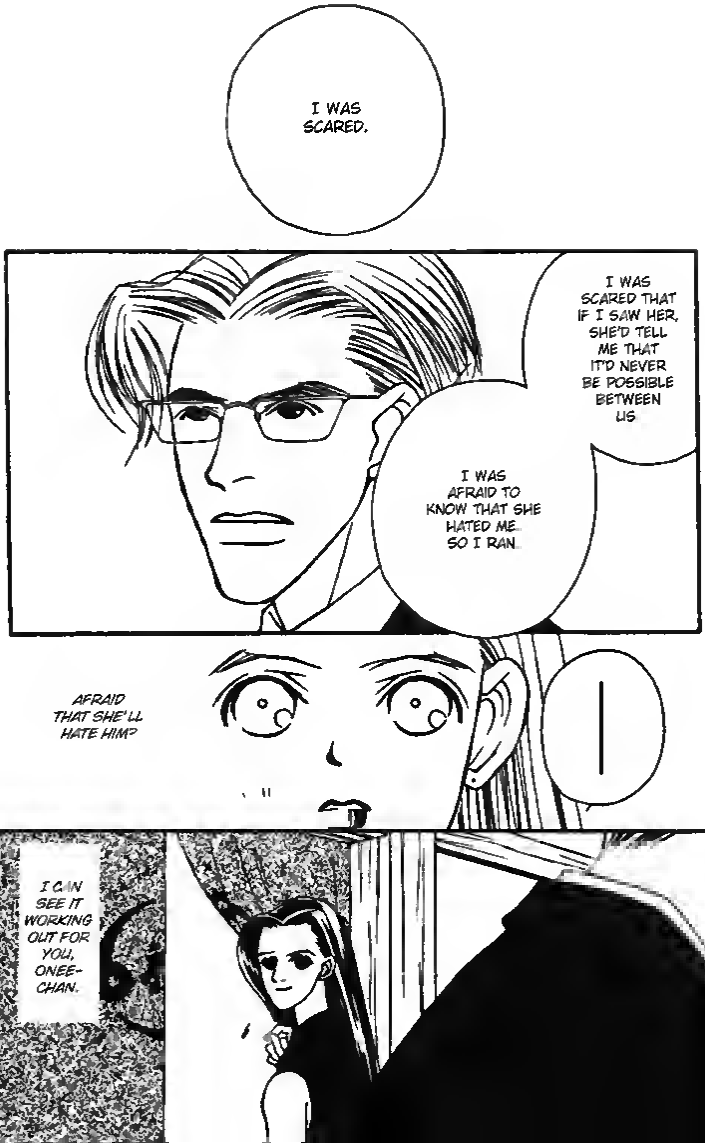

HINA-SAN, I'M COMING IN
.....
SLIDE
HINOYAMA-SAN ....?

ONEE-CHAN? SHE WENT AFTER YOU TO HYOUGO
ARARE-SAN WHERE'S HINA-SAN?
YEAH, IT LOOKS LIKE SHE HAS SOMETHING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
SHE WENT TO SEE ME?
AH, WAIT. IF YOU GO NOW, YOU TWO WILL MISS EACH OTHER AGAIN.
THEN PLEASE EXCUSE ME. I NEED TO GET BACK TO HYOUGO

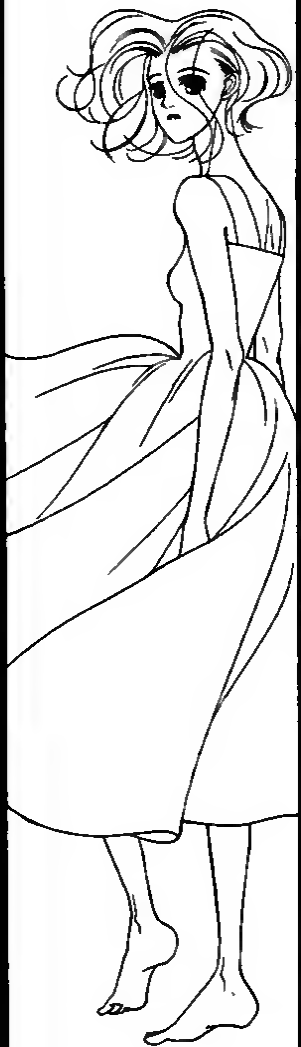
WHY DON'T YOU WAIT HERE?
WHEN SHE REALIZES THAT YOU AREN'T THERE, SHE'LL COME BACK.

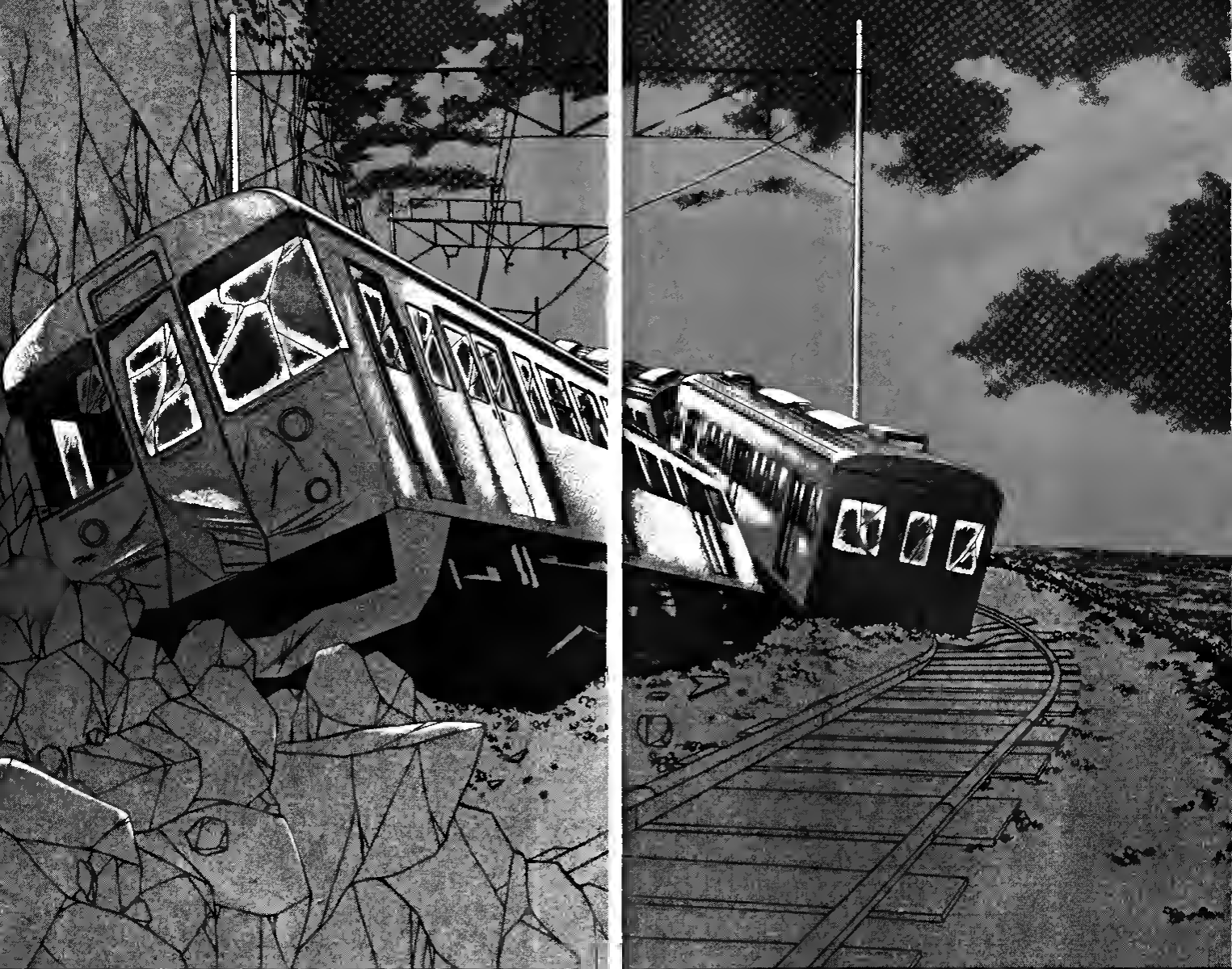

YES, I'LL GO CHECK ON HIM.
IS HE STILL WAITING?
WAIT AND ASK HER YOURSELF
WHY DID HINA GO TO SEE HIM?

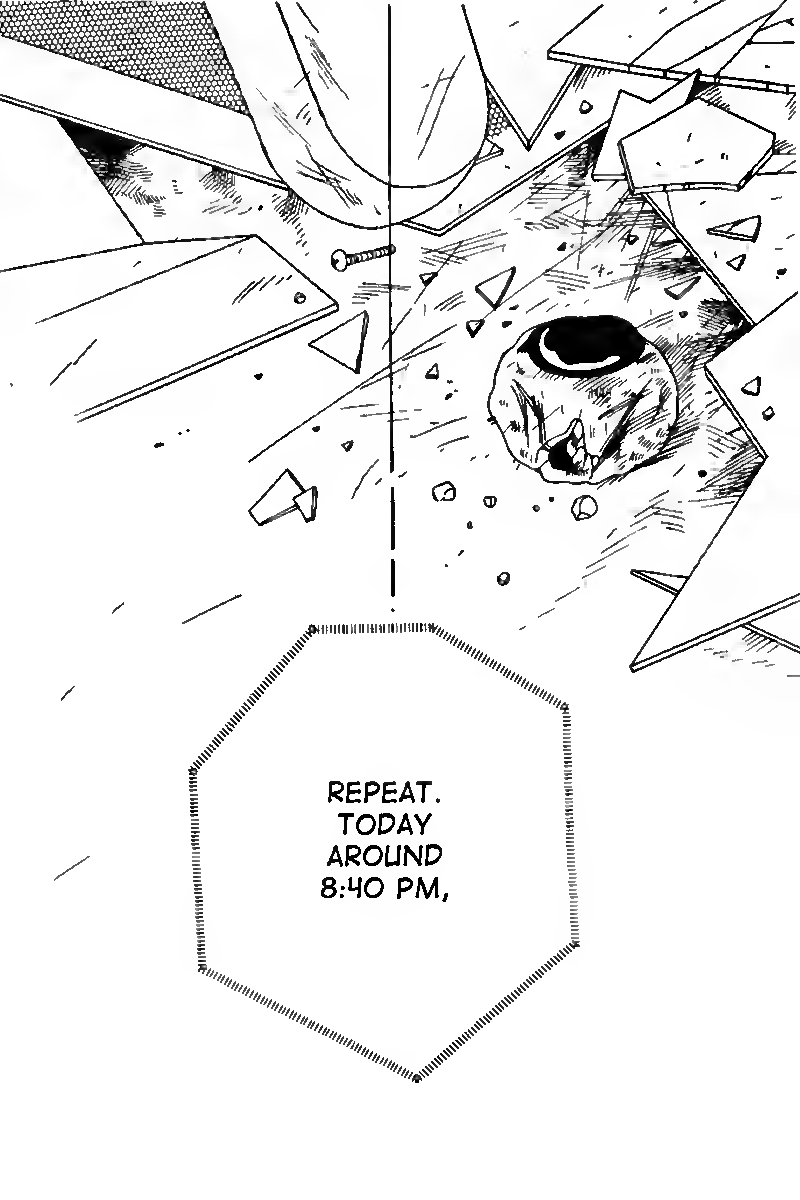

ONEE-CHAN IS LATE, ISN'T SHE?
I ASKED MY GRANDPA TO CALL ME IMMEDIATELY WHEN SHE GETS THERE.
IT'S THE FIRST TIME SHE'S GONE THERE. MAYBE SHE GOT LOST.
I APOLOGIZE FOR IMPOSING ON YOU THIS LATE IN THE EVENING.
SAYS THE PERSON WHO COULDN'T WAIT TO GET OUT OF HERE THIS AFTERNOON.

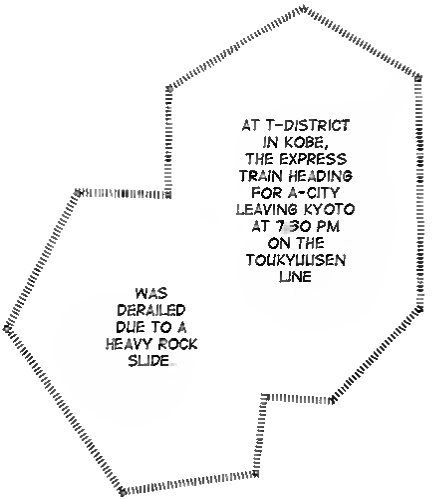

I WAS SCARED.
I WAS SCARED THAT IF I SAW HER, SHE'D TELL ME THAT IT'D NEVER BE POSSIBLE BETWEEN US.
I WAS AFRAID TO KNOW THAT SHE HATED ME... SO I RAN.
I
AFRAID THAT SHE'LL HATE HIM?
I CAN SEE IT WORKING OUT FOR YOU, ONEE-CHAN.

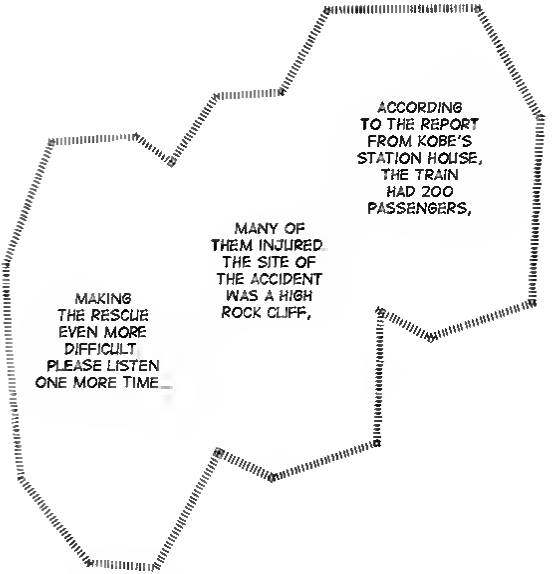
LIKE I'VE BEEN LIVING MY LIFE ON A RAILWAY.


I ALWAYS BEHAVED LIKE A GOOD GIRL TO MEET THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE ADULTS AROUND ME.
THE FIRST DECISION I MADE MYSELF, TO GET MARRIED, ENDED UP DERAILING.
PROBLEMS EXPLODED, AND PEOPLE CALLED IT A FAILED MARRIAGE.
BUT I'VE HAD A HAPPY LIFE.




REPEAT.
TODAY
AROUND
8:40 PM,


AT T-DISTRICT
IN KOBE,
THE EXPRESS
TRAIN HEADING
FOR A-CITY
LEAVING KYOTO
AT 7:30 PM
ON THE
TOUKYUUSEN
LINE
WAS
DERAILED
DUE TO A
HEAVY ROCK
SLIDE.

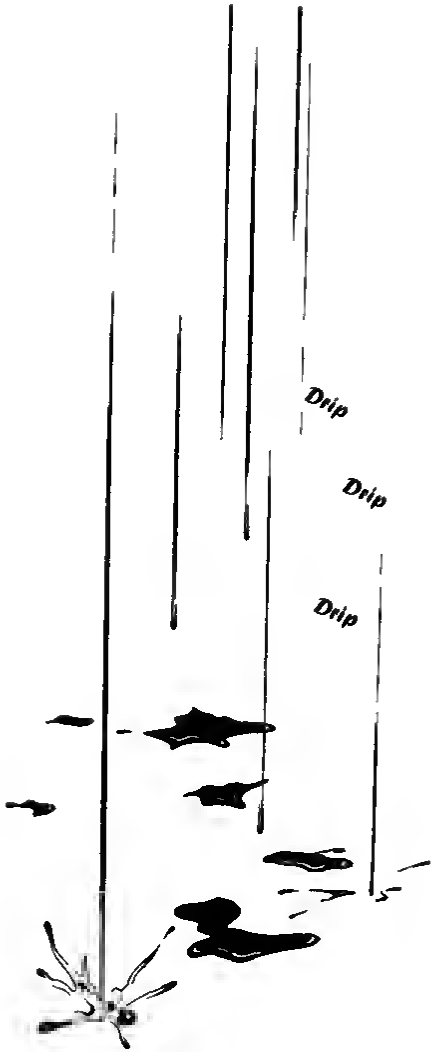

ACCORDING
TO THE REPORT
FROM KOBE'S
STATION HOUSE,
THE TRAIN
HAD 200
PASSENGERS,
MANY OF
THEM INJURED.
THE SITE OF
THE ACCIDENT
WAS A HIGH
ROCK CLIFF,
MAKING
THE RESCUE
EVEN MORE
DIFFICULT.
PLEASE LISTEN
ONE MORE TIME.

Fukuyadon Honpo

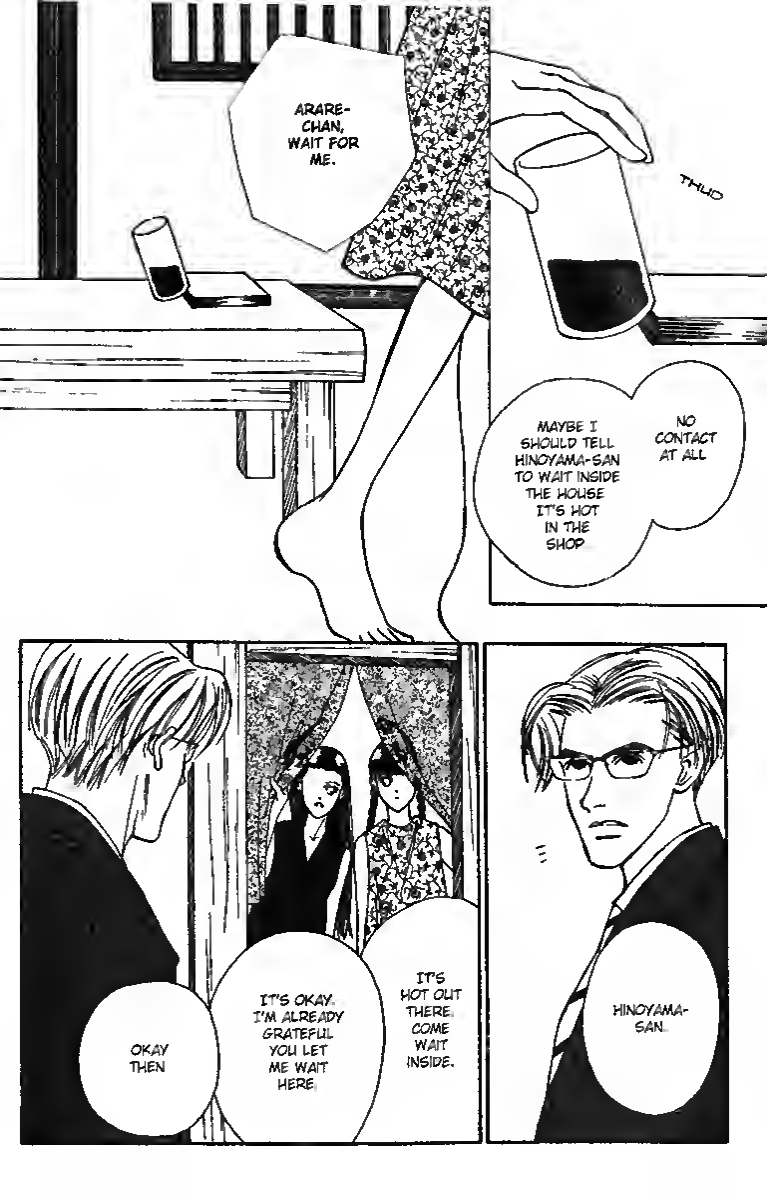
by YUCHI Yayoi

Scanned by : Chihaya
Cleaned by : kaitaunca
Translated by : Chihaya
Proof-read by : Maverick
Edited by : Jaule
QC by : Kiliwanian

The path that I chose (7)
Fu ku ya dō Hon po
福家堂本舗

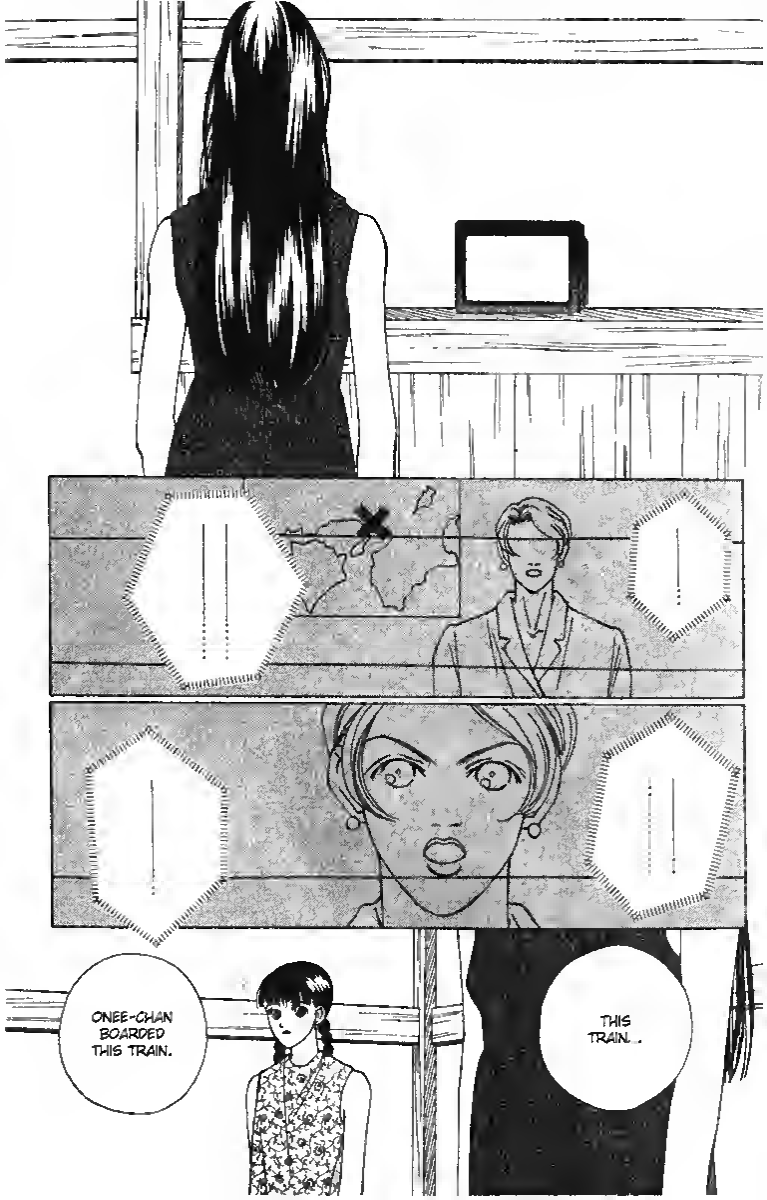

Drip
Drip
Drip

HM?
GEEZ! THE JUICE IS EVERYWHERE!
AH, SORRY.
I didn't see it
WIPE
IT'S ALRIGHT. WOOL-GATHERING?
STILL NO CALL FROM ONEE-CHAN?
YEAH, SO SLOW
ARARE-CHAN!


ARARE-CHAN, WAIT FOR ME.
THUD
NO CONTACT AT ALL
MAYBE I SHOULD TELL HINOYAMA-SAN TO WAIT INSIDE THE HOUSE IT'S HOT IN THE SHOP
HINOYAMA-SAN.
IT'S HOT OUT THERE. COME WAIT INSIDE.
IT'S OKAY. I'M ALREADY GRATEFUL YOU LET ME WAIT HERE.
OKAY THEN

ONEE-CHAN IS SO SLOW
ISN'T SHE? I'M GOING TO CALL GRAND-FATHER AGAIN
MAY I USE YOUR PHONE PLEASE?
BY ALL MEANS
HINOYAMA-SAN, YOU'RE HERE TO BRING ONEE-CHAN HOME WITH YOU, AREN'T YOU?
NO DIVORCE, RIGHT?
HANA, STOP BABBLING
PEOPLE ARE SAYING SHE SHOULD LEAVE YOU AND MARRY THIS GUY OR THAT GUY IT'S HORRIBLE
BUT I WANT YOU AND ONEE-CHAN TO BE HAPPY TOGETHER.

IT'S ME. IS HINA-SAN THERE YET?
I SEE.
NO. LET'S WAIT A LITTLE LONGER. THANK YOU
THANKS
SHE ISN'T THERE YET
HMM... I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED.
ARARE-CHAN, DID SHE SAY IF SHE WAS GOING TO STOP SOMEWHERE FIRST?


ONEE-CHAN BOARDED THIS TRAIN.
THIS TRAIN. .

YOU'RE PULLING MY LEG AGAIN
THAT'S NOT SOMETHING TO JOKE ABOUT, ARARE-CHAN
Not funny at all
I GOT A PREMONITION WHEN MOM WAS GOING TO BE IN AN ACCIDENT LAST YEAR
BUT I DIDN'T FEEL ANYTHING THIS TIME, YOU KNOW.
THIS IS IT. I BOOKED THE TRAIN FOR HER MYSELF.
THE 730 TRAIN

THE EXPRESS TRAIN HEADING FOR A-CITY LEAVING KYOTO AT 19:30 HOURS ON THE TOUKYUUSEN LINE...
MOM! MOM!!
ONEE-CHAN, SHE...!
MOM!
ARARE-CHAN!

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HINA-SAN!
SEI-OJISAN!
AH, KENJI!

I HEARD THE YOUNG MISS WAS IN THE DERAILED TRAIN. IS IT TRUE?
I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS YET, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO BOARD THAT TRAIN.
SLIDE
MADAM!
SORRY, SEI-OJISAN, FOR CALLING YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT
IT'S OKAY. HOW IS HINA-CHAN?

CAN SOMEONE TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO HINA-SAN?!
I'M GOING TO A-CITY.
COULD YOU STAY HERE WITH ARARE-SAN?
WE'LL LEAVE IMMEDIATELY.
WE DON'T KNOW YET THERE HAS BEEN NO CONTACT.
MIGHT AS WELL GO TO THE SCENE
OKAY.
TAKE CARE
THANK YOU. I'LL LEAVE EVERYTHING TO YOU.
MADAM, DON'T WORRY TOO MUCH

YOU MUST BE WORRIED SICK TOO.
SLIDE
SLIDE
CLACK
BUT SOMEONE HAS TO BE HERE.
THUD

EXCUSE ME, ANY NEWS ON MY GRANDFATHER?
I HAVE NO IDEA, SIR.
IT'S BEST THAT YOU CHECK THE SCENE YOURSELF.
WHERE IS HE RIGHT NOW? HE'S A HIGH SCHOOL BOY. TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.
PLEASE, MY SON WAS ON THAT TRAIN TOO.
SIR, PLEASE STOP TAKING IT OUT ON ME. IT'S NOT MY FAULT.
WHAT? YOU STILL DON'T KNOW? SO WE HAVE TO GO TO THE SCENE OURSELVES AT THIS HOUR?!
PLEASE CHECK WITH STATION-A YOURSELF.
BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHO WAS SENT WHERE YET.
THE LATEST INFORMATION WE HAVE IS THAT THERE WERE 150 INJURED PASSENGERS. MOST OF THEM WERE SENT TO THE 4 OR 5 HOSPITALS IN THE AREA.
WHAT? HOW IRRESPONSIBLE.

I can't believe it. Damn the Transit Authority!
Sob
Sob
There, there.
THERE'S NOTHING FOR US HERE.
LET'S GO TO THE SCENE.
YEAH
HEY, THE COPY OF THE HOSPITAL LIST JUST ARRIVED.
TAKE IT TO THE CHIEF AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE FIRST. IF YOU GIVE IT TO THESE PEOPLE NOW, WE'LL NEVER GET IT BACK.
IT WON'T KILL THEM TO WAIT A WHILE.

GRAB
I SAID GIVE ME THAT LIST!!
EH...?
GIVE ME THE HOSPITAL LIST.

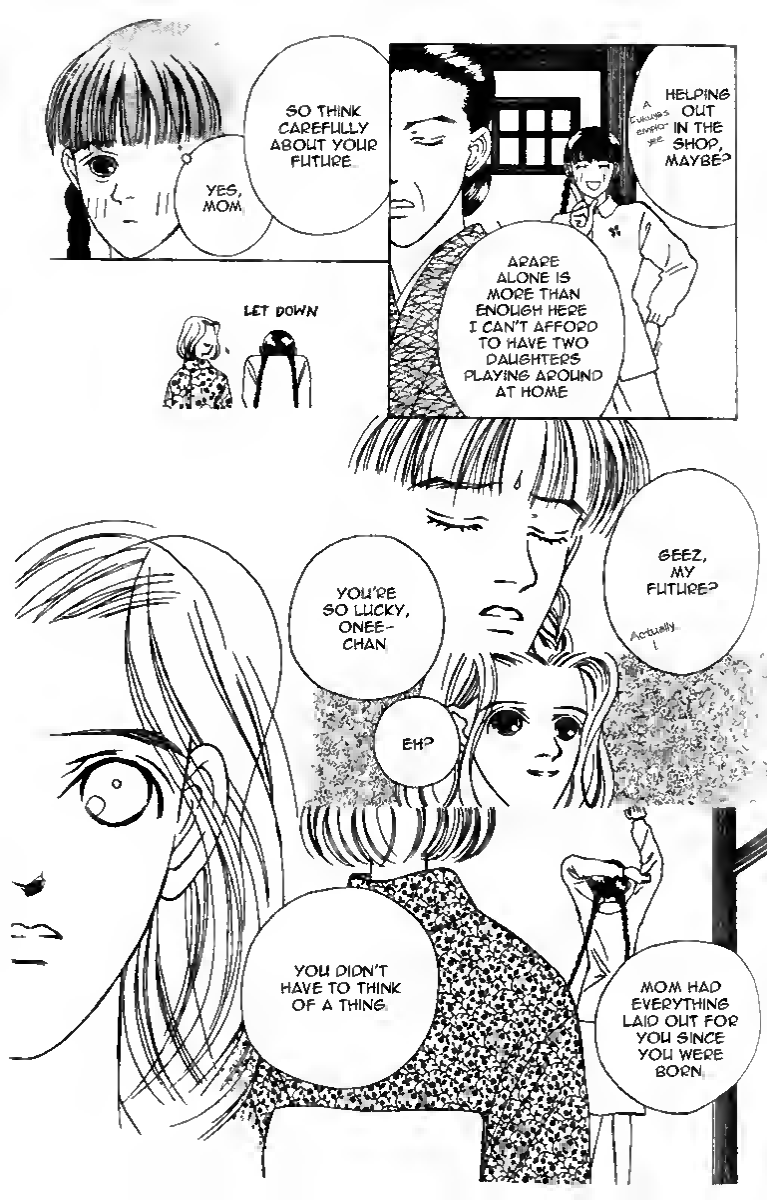
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOUR FAMILY WAS ON THAT TRAIN?!
WOULDN'T YOU DO THE SAME?!
GIVE ME THAT DAMN LIST, NOW!
KANSAI DIALECT!

HINOYAMA-SAN...
JUST SPOKE IN A KANSAI DIALECT..?
MY WIFE IS IN PAIN RIGHT NOW!

SNATCH
UH... THE COPY...
HE MUST BE EXTREMELY FURIOUS.
THE KANSAI ACCENT THAT HE NEVER LET SLIP BEFORE...

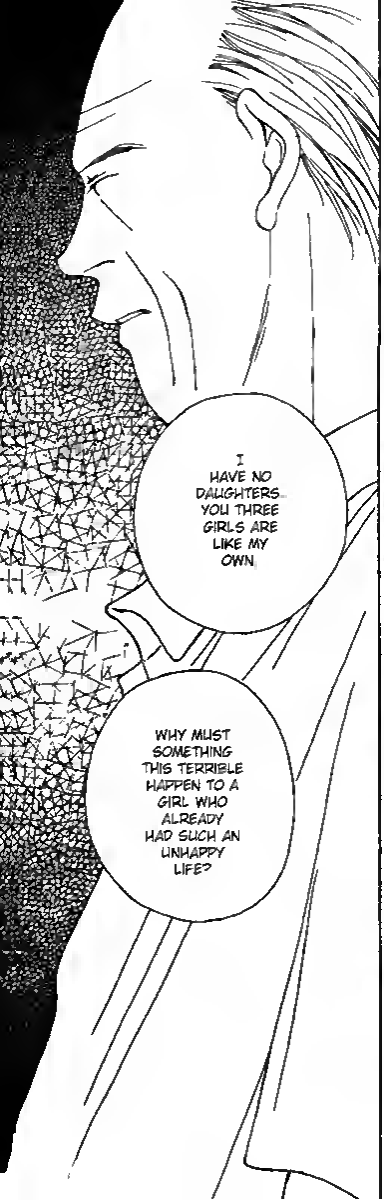
BUT I'M GOING THERE BECAUSE IORI WANTS TO GO THERE I DON'T KNOW IF MOM WILL APPROVE OF MY REASON
YOU HAVE A POINT
ONEE-CHAN..
YOU SHOULD ENTER THE SCHOOL THAT YOU REALLY WANT
OR YOU'LL SURELY REGRET IT LATER

A-SCHOOL?
FINE GO FOR IT
YIPPEE!
I SAY IT DEPENDS ON HOW YOU PHRASE IT YOU KNOW IT'S NOT A BAD SCHOOL
IF MOM DOESN'T APPROVE, BACK ME UP, OKAY?
I DID IT! I DID IT!
I'M NOT GOING TO OBJECT TO YOUR CHOICE OF SCHOOL BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR FUTURE?
I MEANT, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE IN THE FUTURE?
Future?
EH?

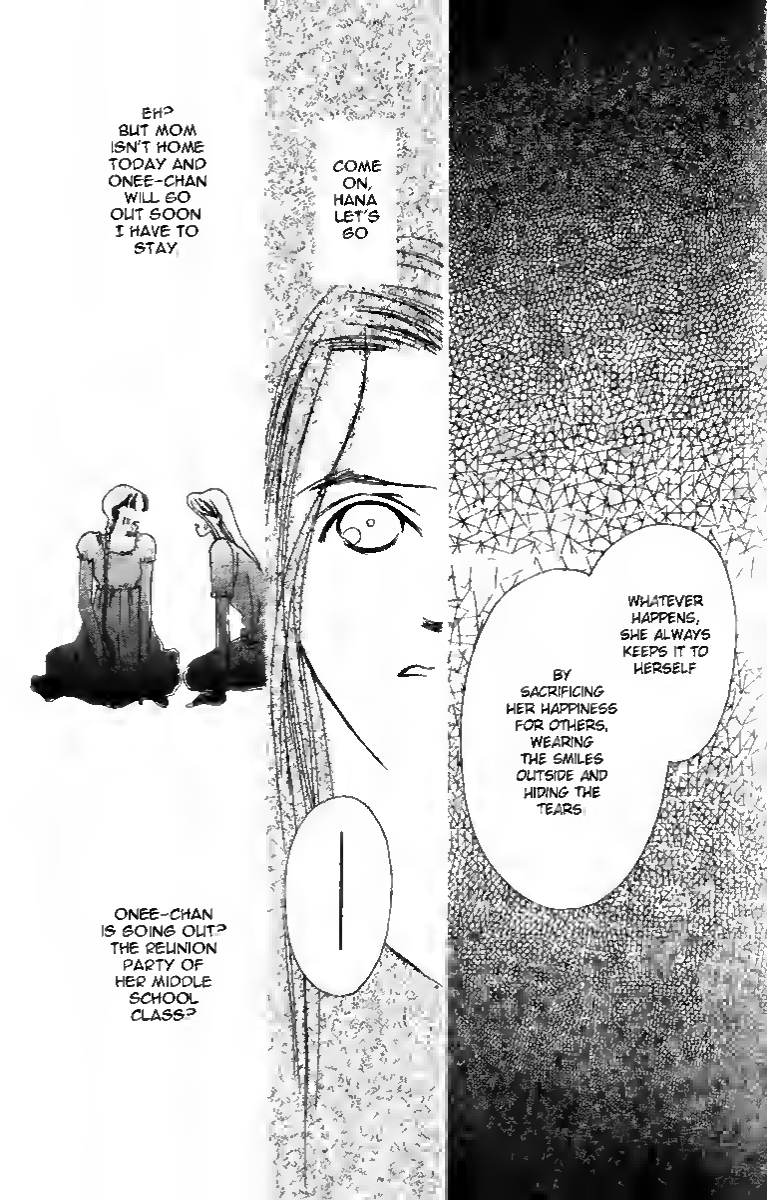

SO THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT YOUR FUTURE
YES, MOM
A FUKUOKA ENKA-STYLE
HELPING OUT IN THE SHOP, MAYBE?
ARAPE ALONE IS MORE THAN ENOUGH HERE I CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE TWO DAUGHTERS PLAYING AROUND AT HOME
LET DOWN
GEEZ, MY FUTURE?
Actually I
YOU'RE SO LUCKY, ONEE-CHAN
EH?
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO THINK OF A THING
MOM HAD EVERYTHING LAID OUT FOR YOU SINCE YOU WERE BORN

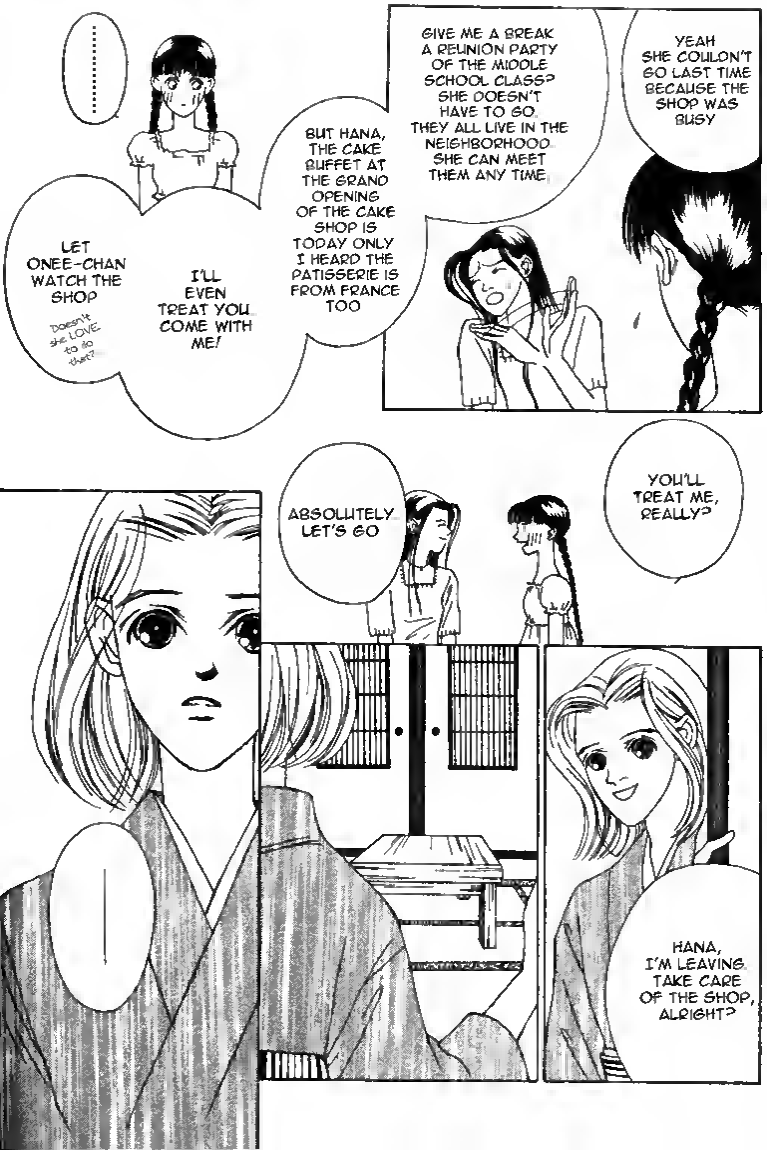
YOU DION'T HAVE TO THINK OF A THING.
.....
HOW
.....
HOW COULD I SAY THAT?
AFTER GRADUATION PLAN SURVEY
FIRST CHOICE
SECOND CHOICE
THIRD CHOICE

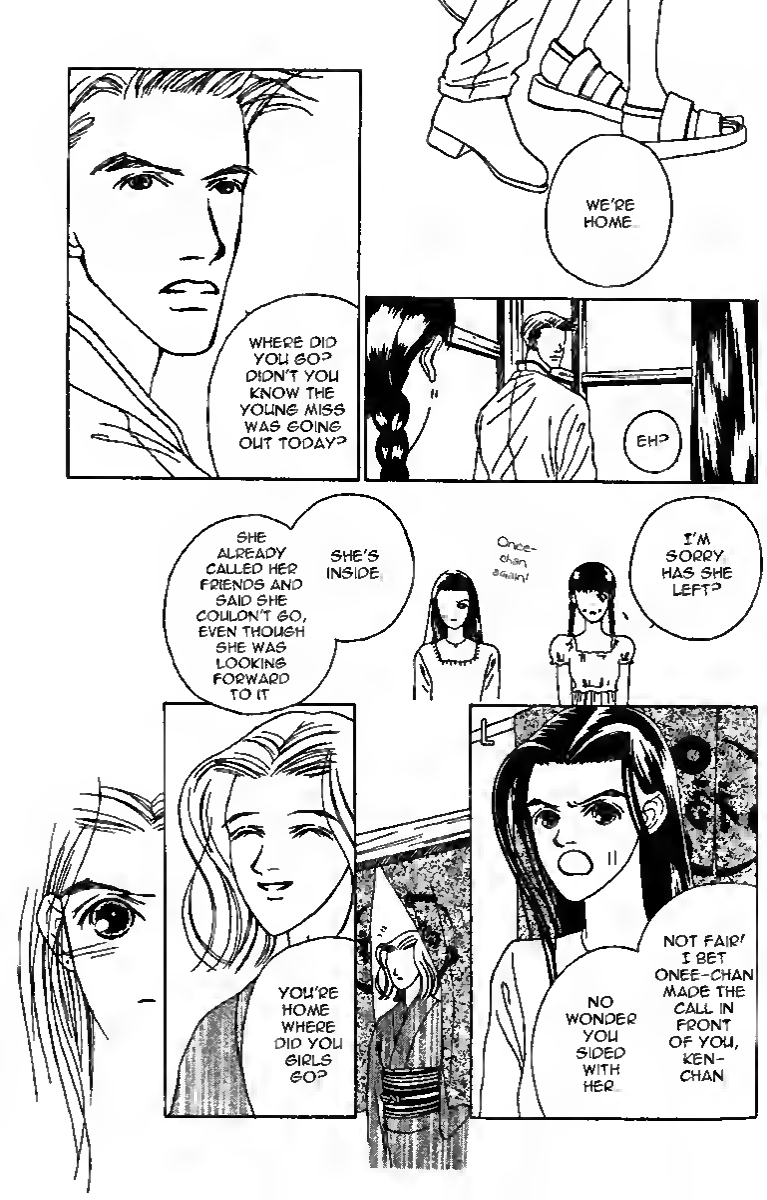
HOW COULD I SAY THAT TO HER...!
IF HE WAS STILL ALIVE, YOUR FATHER, I MEAN,
IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN THIS HARD FOR HINA-CHAN
SHE HAD TO SHOULDER THE FAMILY BUSINESS AND HAD NO TIME TO PLAY AROUND LIKE KIDS HER OWN AGE
AS THE FUTURE SUCCESSOR OF THE SHOP, PEOPLE EXPECTED A LOT FROM HER.
EVERYTHING SHE DOES HAD TO BE PERFECT.

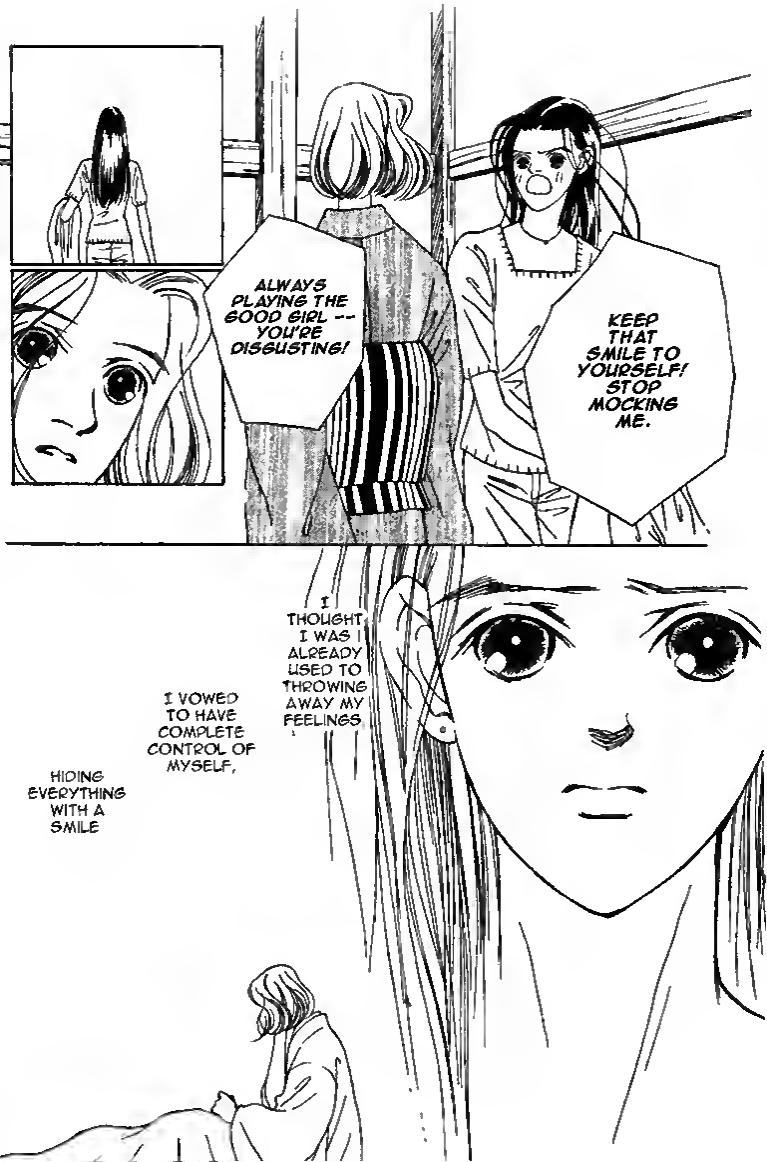

I HAVE NO DAUGHTERS. YOU THREE GIRLS ARE LIKE MY OWN.
WHY MUST SOMETHING THIS TERRIBLE HAPPEN TO A GIRL WHO ALREADY HAD SUCH AN UNHAPPY LIFE?

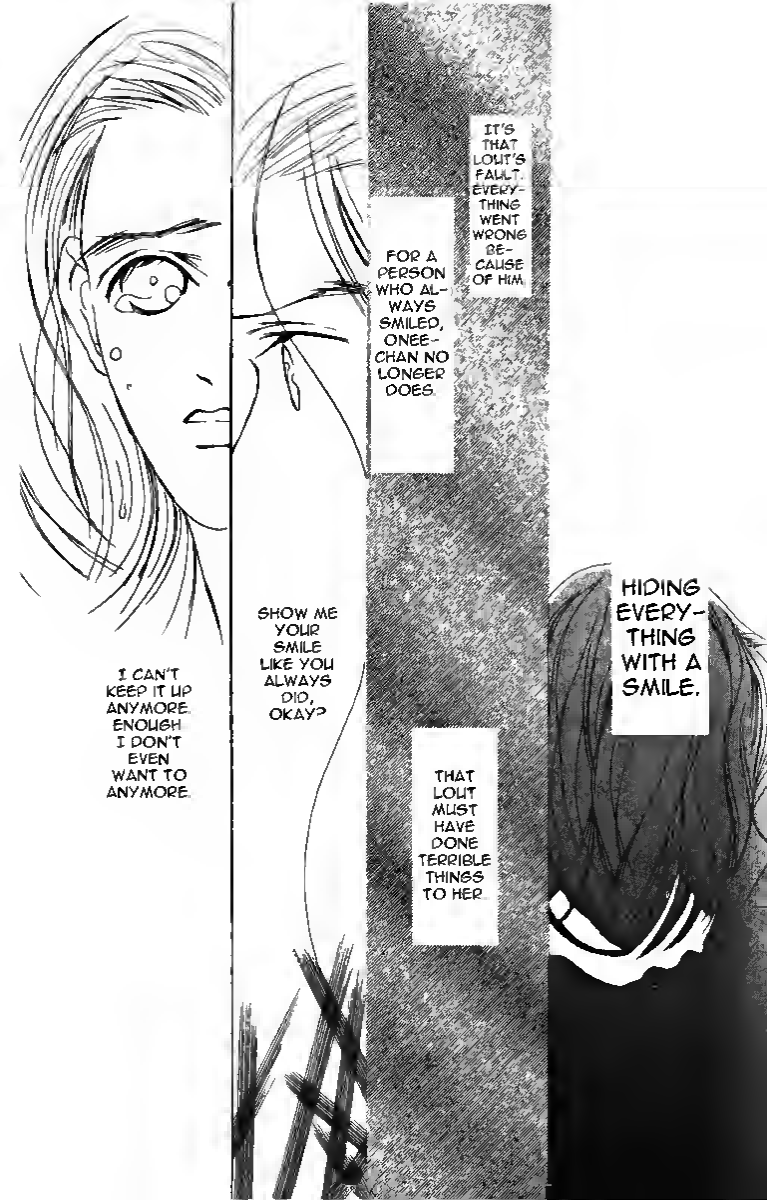
POOR CHILD. TO THINK HOW MUCH SHE HAD TO ENDURE FOR THE SAKE OF THIS HOUSE.
IT'S SAD.

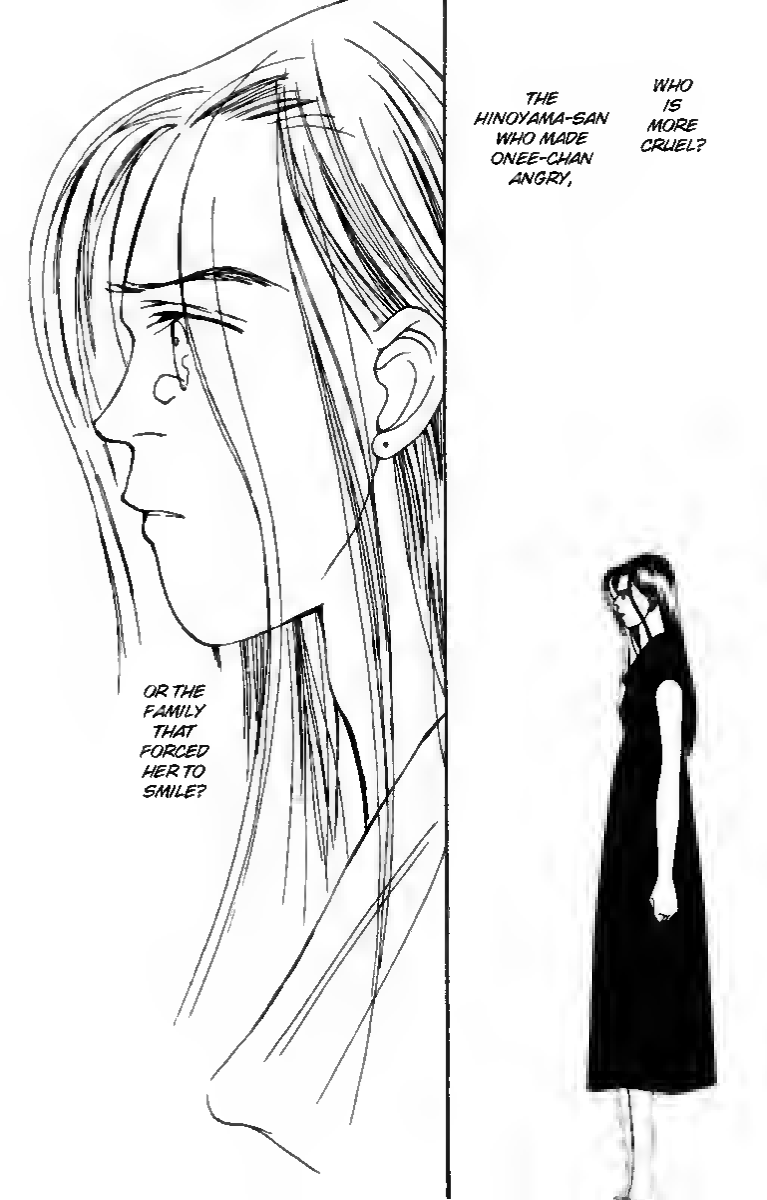

EH?
BUT MOM ISN'T HOME TODAY AND ONEE-CHAN WILL GO OUT SOON I HAVE TO STAY
COME ON, HANA LET'S GO
WHATEVER HAPPENS, SHE ALWAYS KEEPS IT TO HERSELF
BY SACRIFICING HER HAPPINESS FOR OTHERS, WEARING THE SMILES OUTSIDE AND HIDING THE TEARS
ONEE-CHAN IS GOING OUT? THE REUNION PARTY OF HER MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASS?

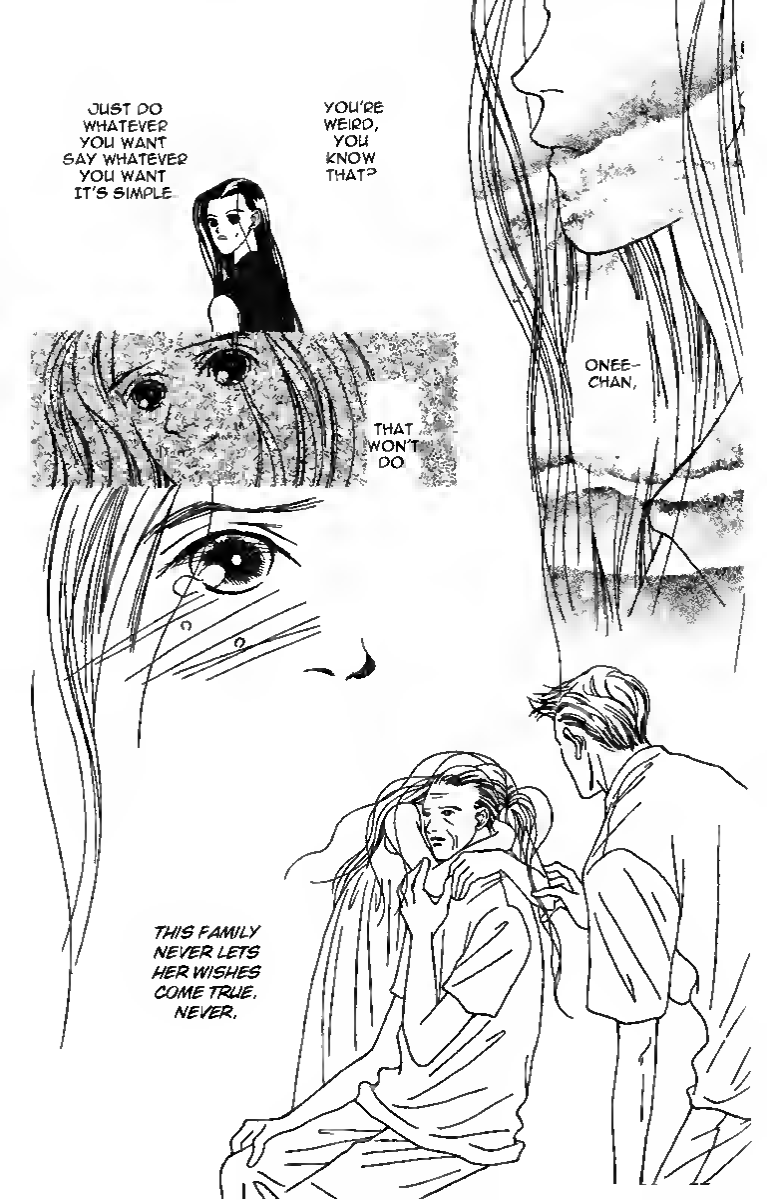

.....
LET ONEE-CHAN WATCH THE SHOP
Doesn't she LOVE to go out?
I'LL EVEN TREAT YOU. COME WITH ME!
BUT HANA, THE CAKE BUFFET AT THE GRAND OPENING OF THE CAKE SHOP IS TODAY ONLY I HEARD THE PATISSERIE IS FROM FRANCE TOO
GIVE ME A BREAK A REUNION PARTY OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASS? SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO GO. THEY ALL LIVE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. SHE CAN MEET THEM ANY TIME.
YEAH SHE COULDN'T GO LAST TIME BECAUSE THE SHOP WAS BUSY
YOU'LL TREAT ME, REALLY?
ABSOLUTELY LET'S GO
HANA, I'M LEAVING. TAKE CARE OF THE SHOP, ALRIGHT?


WE'RE HOME...
WHERE DID YOU GO? DIDN'T YOU KNOW THE YOUNG MISS WAS GOING OUT TODAY?
EH?
I'M SORRY HAS SHE LEFT?
Onee-chan again!
SHE'S INSIDE.
SHE ALREADY CALLED HER FRIENDS AND SAID SHE COULDN'T GO, EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO IT
NOT FAIR! I BET ONEE-CHAN MADE THE CALL IN FRONT OF YOU, KEN-CHAN
NO WONDER YOU SIDED WITH HER...
YOU'RE HOME WHERE DID YOU GIRLS GO?


ALWAYS PLAYING THE GOOD GIRL -- YOU'RE DISGUSTING!
KEEP THAT SMILE TO YOURSELF! STOP MOCKING ME.
I THOUGHT I WAS ALREADY USED TO THROWING AWAY MY FEELINGS.
I VOWED TO HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OF MYSELF,
HIDING EVERYTHING WITH A SMILE

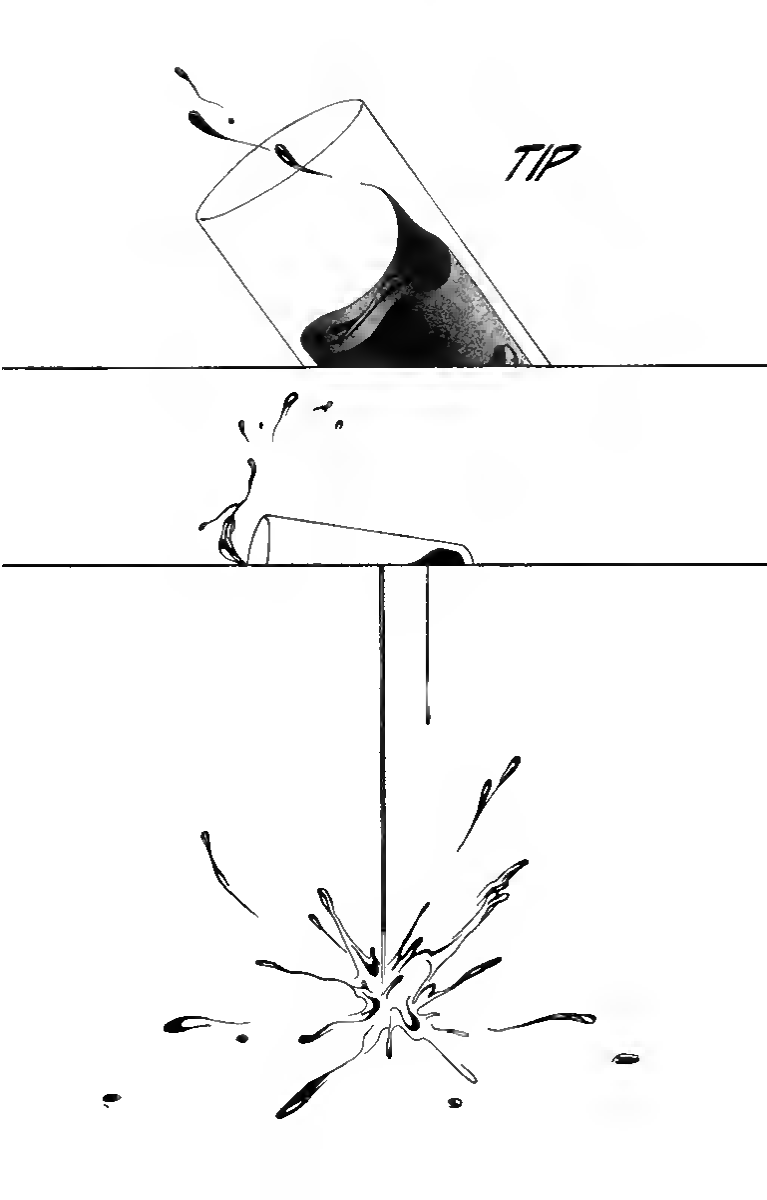

I CAN'T KEEP IT UP ANYMORE. ENOUGH. I DON'T EVEN WANT TO ANYMORE.
SHOW ME YOUR SMILE LIKE YOU ALWAYS DID, OKAY?
FOR A PERSON WHO ALWAYS SMILED, ONEE-CHAN NO LONGER DOES.
IT'S THAT LOUT'S FAULT. EVERYTHING WENT WRONG BECAUSE OF HIM.
THAT LOUT MUST HAVE DONE TERRIBLE THINGS TO HER.
HIDING EVERYTHING WITH A SMILE.


THE HINOYAMA-SAN WHO MADE ONEE-CHAN ANGRY,
WHO IS MORE CRUEL?
OR THE FAMILY THAT FORCED HER TO SMILE?


JUST DO WHATEVER YOU WANT SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT IT'S SIMPLE.
YOU'RE WEIRD, YOU KNOW THAT?
ONEE-CHAN,
THAT WON'T DO
THIS FAMILY NEVER LETS HER WISHES COME TRUE. NEVER.

NOTHING IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO HER.
HINA-CHAN IS GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
PLEASE...

COME BACK SAFELY.
PLEASE


TIP

Warabi Mochi

a not true mochi but a jelly like confection made from bracken starch and sprinkled with roasted soybean flour and kuromitsu (sweet toasted rice) syrup. It is usually served in summer. Warabi mochi is a popular dessert in the Kansai region, and during the Edo period, it was a delicacy enjoyed by the wealthy townspeople. Today it is widely available throughout Japan.

Fukuyadon Honpo

by YUCHI Yayomi

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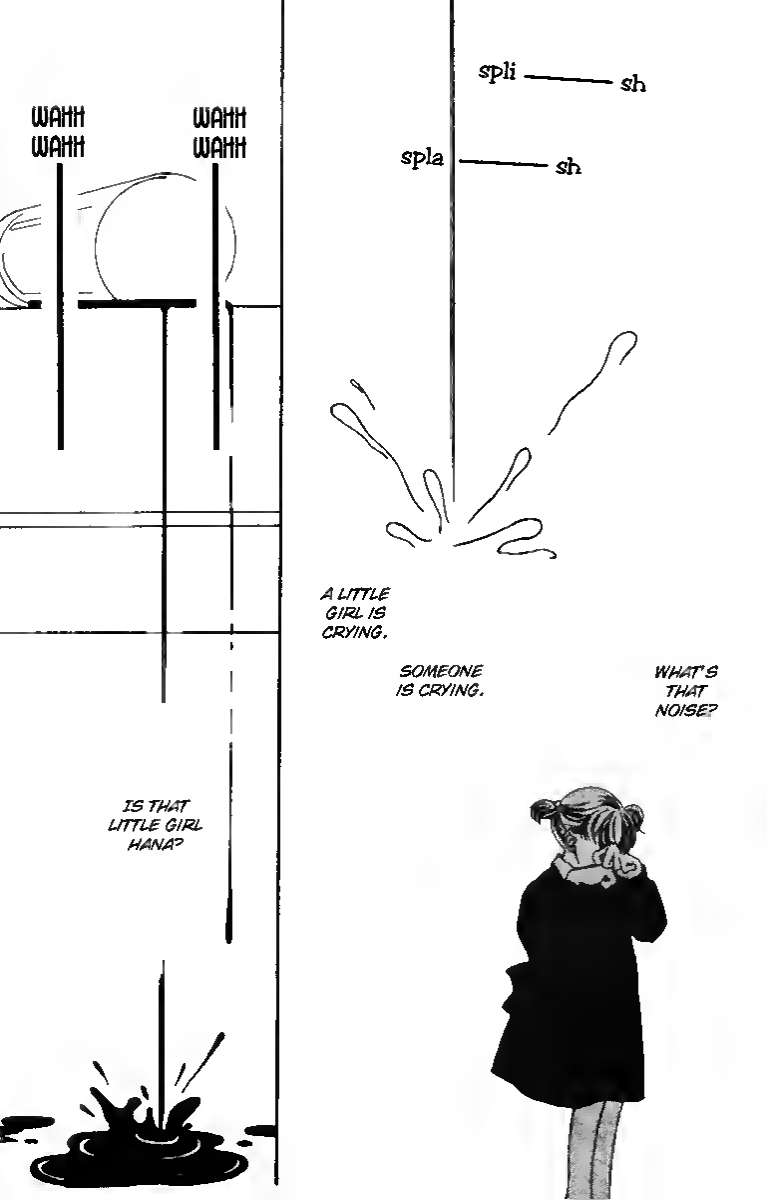
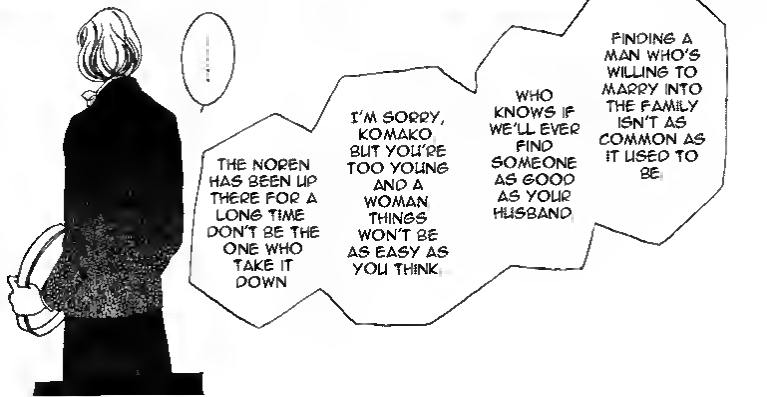
The path that I chose (8)


WAHH
WAHH
WAHH
WAHH
spli ——— sh
spla ——— sh
A LITTLE GIRL IS CRYING.
SOMEONE IS CRYING.
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
IS THAT LITTLE GIRL HANA?

WAHH
ONEE-CHAN WILL BE HERE SOON
WAHH WAHH
HANA, SHE'LL BE HERE SOON
WAHH HHH!
YOU CAN'T RUN THE SHOP BY YOURSELF
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, KOMAKO
BUT HE ISN'T HERE ANYMORE
I KNOW YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND DID A GREAT JOB KEEPING THE SHOP TOGETHER AFTER THE 18TH SUCCESSOR PASSED AWAY

YOU'RE MAKING A WILD BET ON A FUTURE SON-IN-LAW? HINA JUST ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL!
YOUR YOUNGEST ONE IS ONLY THREE YEARS OLD.
I HAVE DAUGHTERS THEY WILL MARRY SOMEONE AND CONTINUE THE SHOP
I'LL KEEP THE SHOP GOING UNTIL THEN NO NEED FOR A TAKE-OVER
YEAH, HE CAN'T BE HANDS-ON LIKE YOUR FATHER, BUT HE'S GOOD AT MANAGING ASSETS
WHAT DO YOU SAY? JUST LET YOUR UNCLE IN OMIYA TAKE OVER THE SHOP. IT'S TOO BIG FOR A GIRL TO HANDLE ANYWAY.


.....
THE NOREN HAS BEEN UP THERE FOR A LONG TIME DON'T BE THE ONE WHO TAKE IT DOWN
I'M SORRY, KOMAKO BUT YOU'RE TOO YOUNG AND A WOMAN THINGS WON'T BE AS EASY AS YOU THINK.
WHO KNOWS IF WE'LL EVER FIND SOMEONE AS GOOD AS YOUR HUSBAND
FINDING A MAN WHO'S WILLING TO MARRY INTO THE FAMILY ISN'T AS COMMON AS IT USED TO BE.

NO
HANA IS HUNGRY I CAN'T MAKE HER STOP CRYING
CAN'T THEY JUST LEAVE US ALONE FOR NOW?
UGH UGH.
ONEE-CHAN, HAVE THE UNCLES LEFT?
I'LL MAKE SOME-THING FOR YOU
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT? A HAM-BURGER? OR...
ONEE-CHAN! INSTANT NOODLES ARE FINE. IT'S NOT LIKE TODAY IS...
A SPECIAL OCCASION OR ANYTHING

LET'S DO OUR BEST
WE ALL HAVE TO GET USED TO THIS WAY OF LIFE
NO, IT'S NOT
SOMEONE HAS TO DO THE JOB.
I CAN'T SHOW MY WEAKNESS. THERE'S NO TIME TO PLAY AROUND ANYMORE.
I'M MOM'S ONLY HOPE RIGHT NOW.

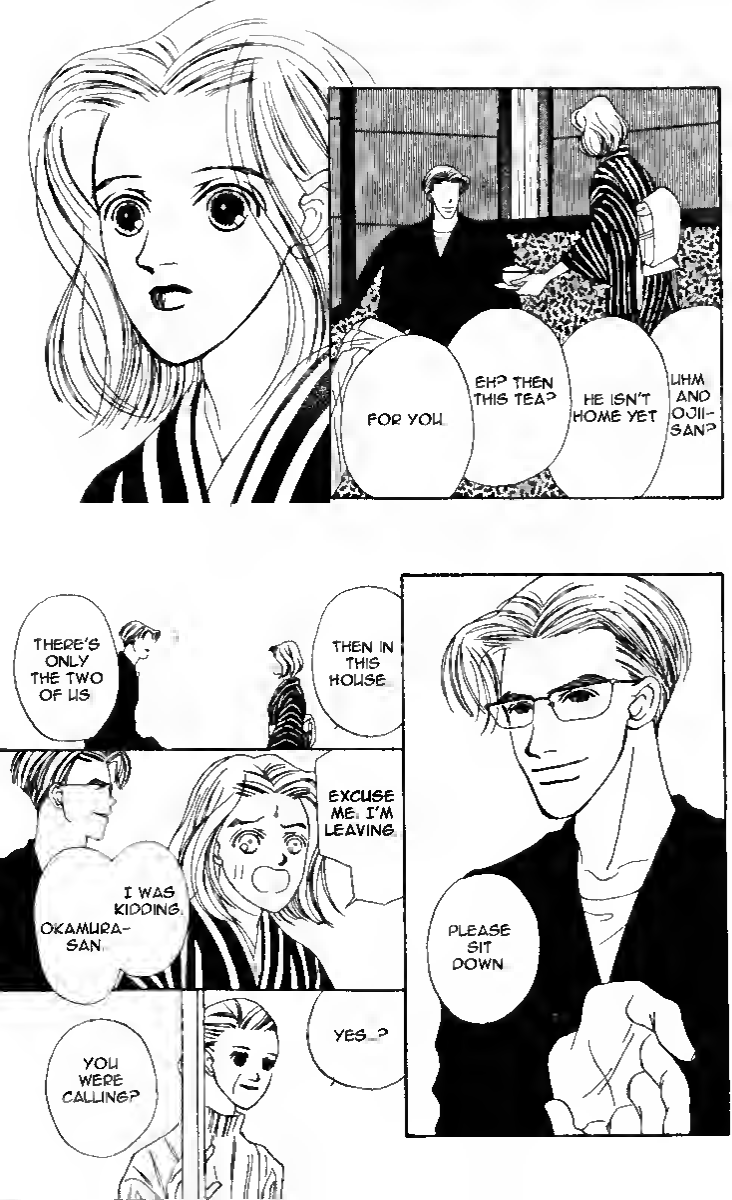
WHAT DO YOU THINK I RAISED MY VOICE FOR?
ARARE-CHAN! ONEE-CHAN CAN HEAR YOU.
She excels at maintaining her purity
OR MAYBE SHE JUST DOES IT TO KISS MOM'S ASS.
ISN'T IT GREAT? SHE LIKES WHAT SHE DOES ANYWAY. WHY BOTHER TO HELP?

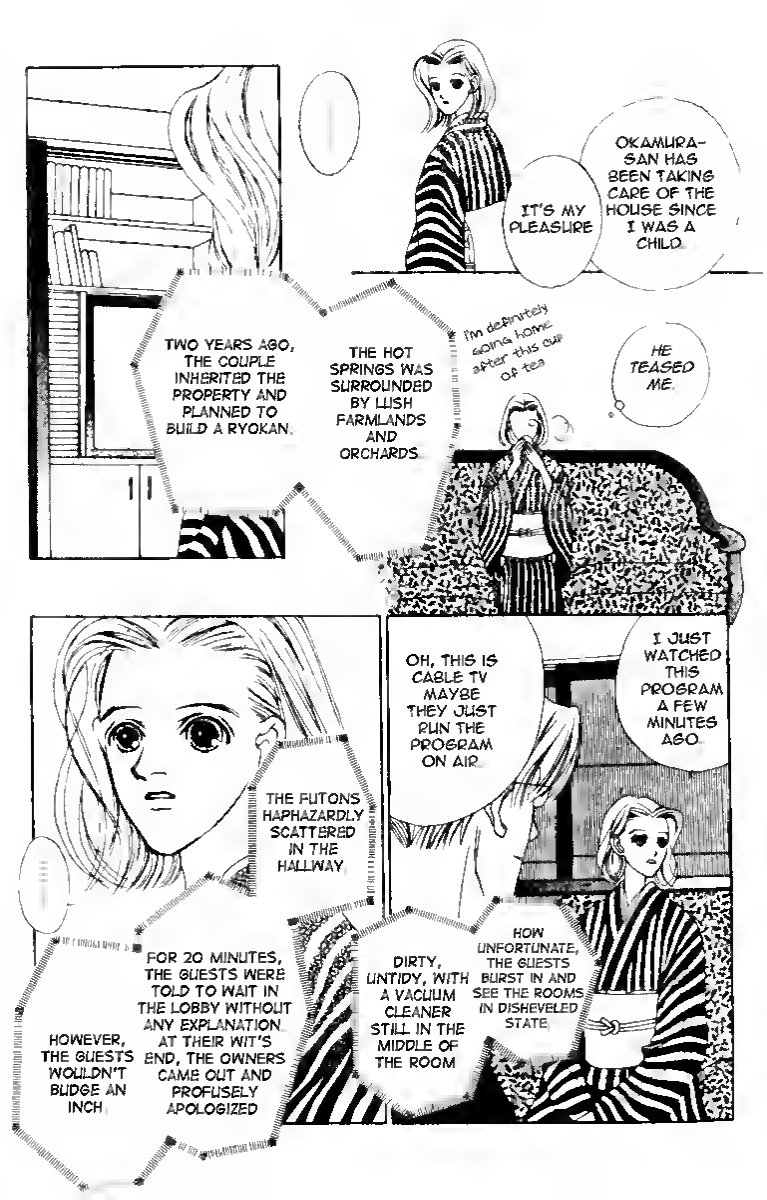
BUT DURING THAT TIME...
LEARNING TO LIE, FAKING A SMILE.
GOOD MORNING.
ONE MUST LEARN SOLITUDE.
AND IN THE FAMILY OF YOUR OWN BLOOD KIN,
IN ORDER TO WALK THIS PATH, DETACHING MYSELF FROM THE PAIN IS THE PRICE I PAY.
OH, I DID BUT I HAVEN'T MADE UP MY MIND YET.
THIS GUY CAME HERE SO OFTEN.
YET HE TALKS ABOUT THE SAME STUFF EVERY TIME.
HAVE YOU HAD THE TIME TO CONSIDER THE TIME DEPOSIT ACCOUNT?
I DIDN'T FIND THE CONVERSATION UNPLEASANT THOUGH.

EH?
THAT HOT SPRING A MIDDLE-AGED COUPLE BUILT A RYOKAN* AROUND IT...
YES WHAT ABOUT IT?
WHAT? YOU AREN'T WATCHING THE TV?
ONEE-CHAN, WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF IT WERE YOU?
THEIR FIRST GROUP OF GUESTS ARRIVED AHEAD OF TIME THE ROOM HASN'T BEEN CLEANED
ON THE DAY OF THEIR OPERATION
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE IN THEIR SHOES?
THE COUPLE EXPLAINED THE SITUATION AND PROFUSELY APOLOGIZED
HMM... IF I WAS THE OWNER OF THE RYOKAN?

*T/N: A traditional Japanese hotel

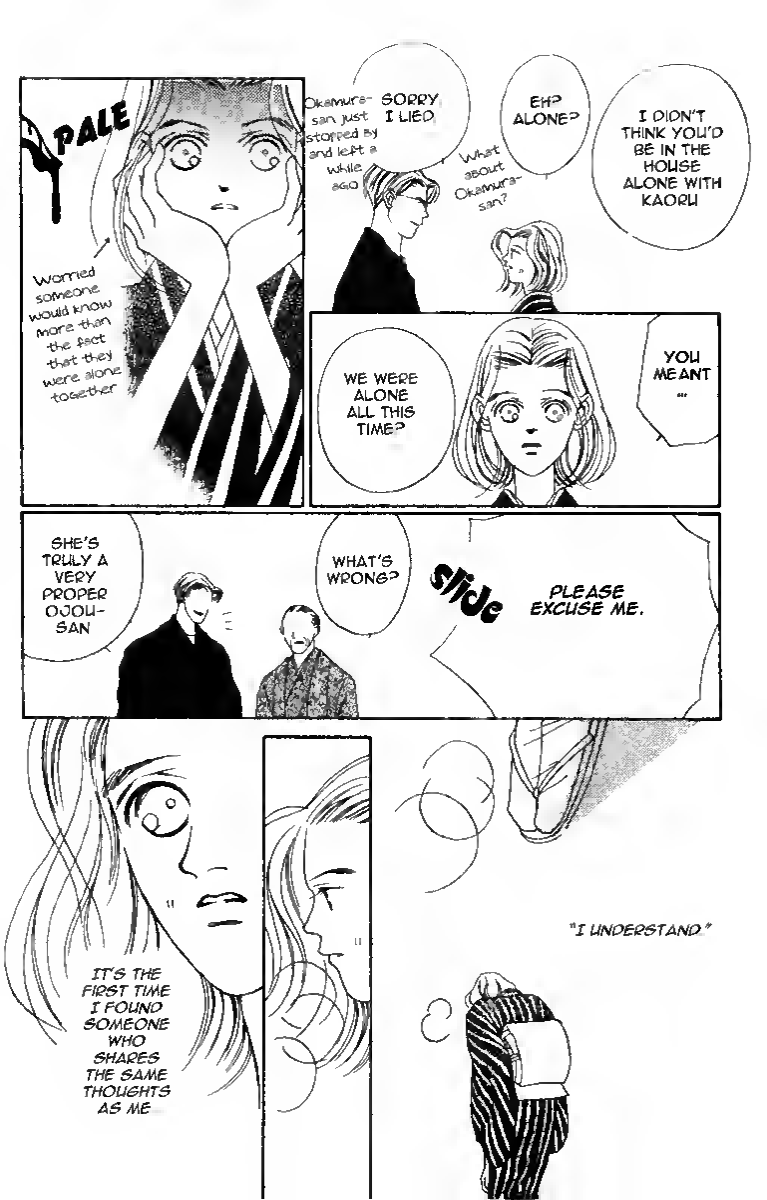
Shh! Mom will hear you.
Arare-chan, you're going to the bar again?
YES.
RUN AN ERRAND FOR ME.
PERFECT TIMING. PLEASE COME INSIDE
OKAY.
THANK YOU FOR THIS MORNING. I'M HERE TO DELIVER THE WAGASHI. IS OJII-SAN HOME?
YES?
YES.
I'LL TAKE THIS CUP THEN
WHICH ONE WOULD YOU LIKE?
I'M SURE IT'LL TASTE MUCH BETTER THAN WHEN I DO IT MYSELF.
WOULD YOU MIND BREWING TWO CUPS OF TEA FOR ME PLEASE?


UHM AND OJII-SAN?
HE ISN'T HOME YET
EH? THEN THIS TEA?
FOR YOU
PLEASE SIT DOWN
THEN IN THIS HOUSE
THERE'S ONLY THE TWO OF US
EXCUSE ME, I'M LEAVING
I WAS KIDDING, OKAMURA-SAN
YES_?
YOU WERE CALLING?


OKAMURA-SAN HAS BEEN TAKING CARE OF THE HOUSE SINCE I WAS A CHILD.
IT'S MY PLEASURE
TWO YEARS AGO, THE COUPLE INHERITED THE PROPERTY AND PLANNED TO BUILD A RYOKAN.
THE HOT SPRINGS WAS SURROUNDED BY LUSH FARMLANDS AND ORCHARDS.
I'm definitely going home after this cup of tea
HE TEASED ME.
I JUST WATCHED THIS PROGRAM A FEW MINUTES AGO.
OH, THIS IS CABLE TV MAYBE THEY JUST RUN THE PROGRAM ON AIR.
THE FUTONS HAPHAZARDLY SCATTERED IN THE HALLWAY.
HOW UNFORTUNATE, THE GUESTS BURST IN AND SEE THE ROOMS IN DISHEVELED STATE.
DIRTY, UNTIDY, WITH A VACUUM CLEANER STILL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM
FOR 20 MINUTES, THE GUESTS WERE TOLD TO WAIT IN THE LOBBY WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION. AT THEIR WIT'S END, THE OWNERS CAME OUT AND PROFUSELY APOLOGIZED
HOWEVER, THE GUESTS WOULDN'T BUDGE AN INCH.

THEY SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT SOME TEA AND SWEETS WHEN THE GUESTS ARRIVED IN THE LOBBY.
OFFER TO TAKE THE LUGGAGE INTO THE ROOMS SO THAT IT WOULDN'T REMIND THEM THAT THE ROOMS AREN'T READY YET.
AND INTRODUCE THE GUESTS TO THE TOURIST SPOTS NEARBY SO THEY WOULDN'T FEEL LIKE THEY'RE WASTING THEIR TIME.
JUICE OR SNACKS, OR WHATEVER. JUST TELL THEM IT'S COMPLIMENTARY FOR THE HOTEL'S OPENING.
I EXPECT NO LESS FROM AN OJOU-SAN OF A SHOP WITH SUCH A LONG HISTORY.
Ah
SO YOU'LL KEEP ON DECEIVING THEM
I UNDER-STAND
ISN'T THAT DECEIVING PEOPLE?
NO, I DIDN'T MEAN TO...

IT SHOULDN'T EVEN CROSS THEIR MINDS.
AS ANYONE QUALIFIED WOULD KNOW, EXPLAINING THE SITUATION AND APOLOGIZING TO GAIN THE GUESTS' FORGIVENESS IS SHALLOW THINKING.
WHEN A MISTAKE IS MADE, BETWEEN EXPLAINING THE TRUTH, APOLOGIZING, AND LEADING THE GUESTS' EYES AWAY FROM THE MISTAKE, WHICH IS MORE PROFESS-IONAL?
MY THOUGHTS ARE THE SAME AS YOURS.
HOW STRANGE WE USUALLY SHARE THE SAME OPINION.
OH, I SAW A WOMAN'S SHOES. I WAS WONDERING WHO SHE WAS.
UH.. SORRY FOR INTRUDING.
WEL-COME HOME
YOU HAVE A GUEST, KAORU?
.....


PALE
Worried someone would know more than the fact that they were alone together
Okamura-san just stopped by and left a while ago
SORRY I LIED
What about Okamura-san?
EH? ALONE?
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE IN THE HOUSE ALONE WITH KAORU
WE WERE ALONE ALL THIS TIME?
YOU MEANT ...
SHE'S TRULY A VERY PROPER OJOU-SAN
WHAT'S WRONG?
slide
PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I FOUND SOMEONE WHO SHARES THE SAME THOUGHTS AS ME
"I UNDERSTAND."

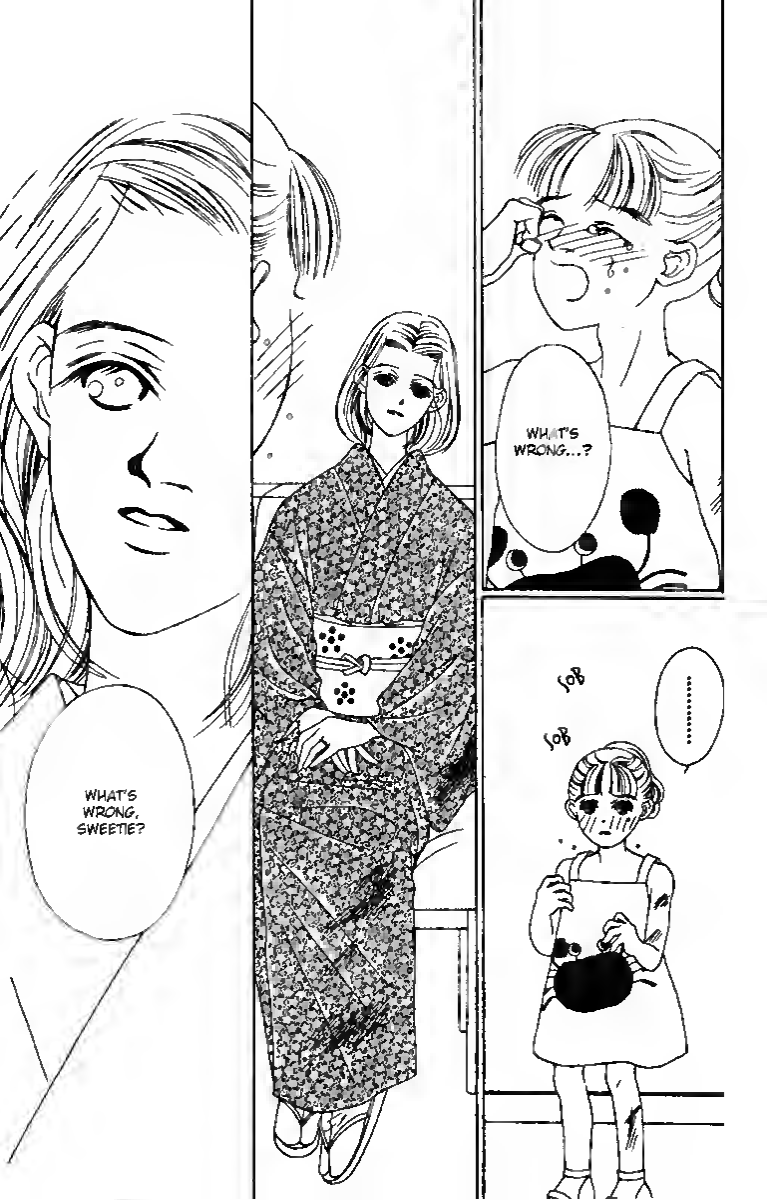
TO HAVE SOMEONE SITTING BESIDE ME AND SHARING THE SAME THOUGHTS IS A WONDERFUL FEELING.
NOT AGAIN EVERYONE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE ME A MARRIED MAN, CAN THEY?
I THOUGHT THE SHOES WERE SATOKO'S I HAVEN'T SEEN HER AROUND IN A WHILE.
SHE ONLY COMES WHEN SHE NEEDS TO.
TOSS
A SOUVENIR FOR YOU.
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE FALLING FOR THAT GIRL,
HINA-CHAN, FROM THE FUKUYA SHOP?
N-NOTHING LIKE THAT.
GOOD, BECAUSE YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE.

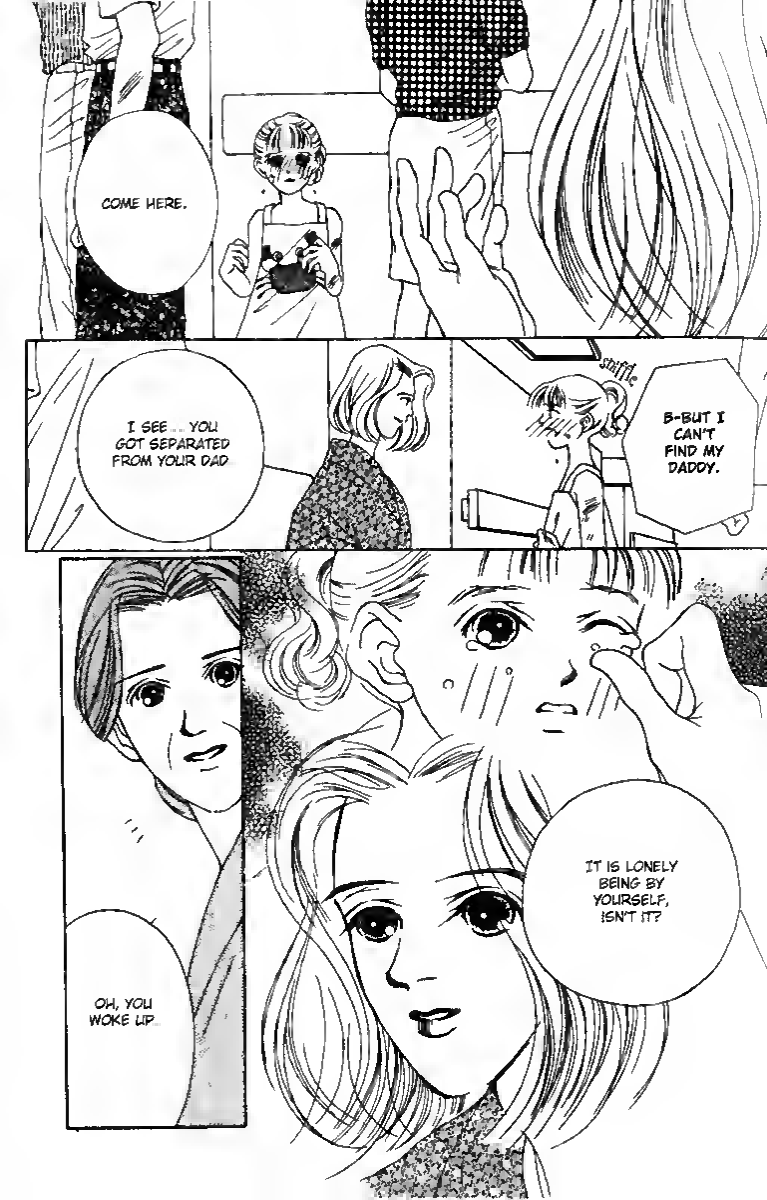
TO A PROMISING WORKER IN THEIR SHOP
HE'S YOUNG, BUT SKILLFUL AND A VERY GOOD MAN
HINA-CHAN WAS RAISED TO BE THE NEXT SUCCESSOR. SHE'S HER MOTHER'S PRIDE I'M SURE KOMAKO CAREFULLY HAD THE BEST SON-IN-LAW PICKED OUT
THAT GIRL IS MORE OR LESS BETROTHED
WHAT ABOUT YOU? HOW MANY OMIAIS HAVE YOU ATTENDED THIS YEAR? ANYONE YOU LIKE?

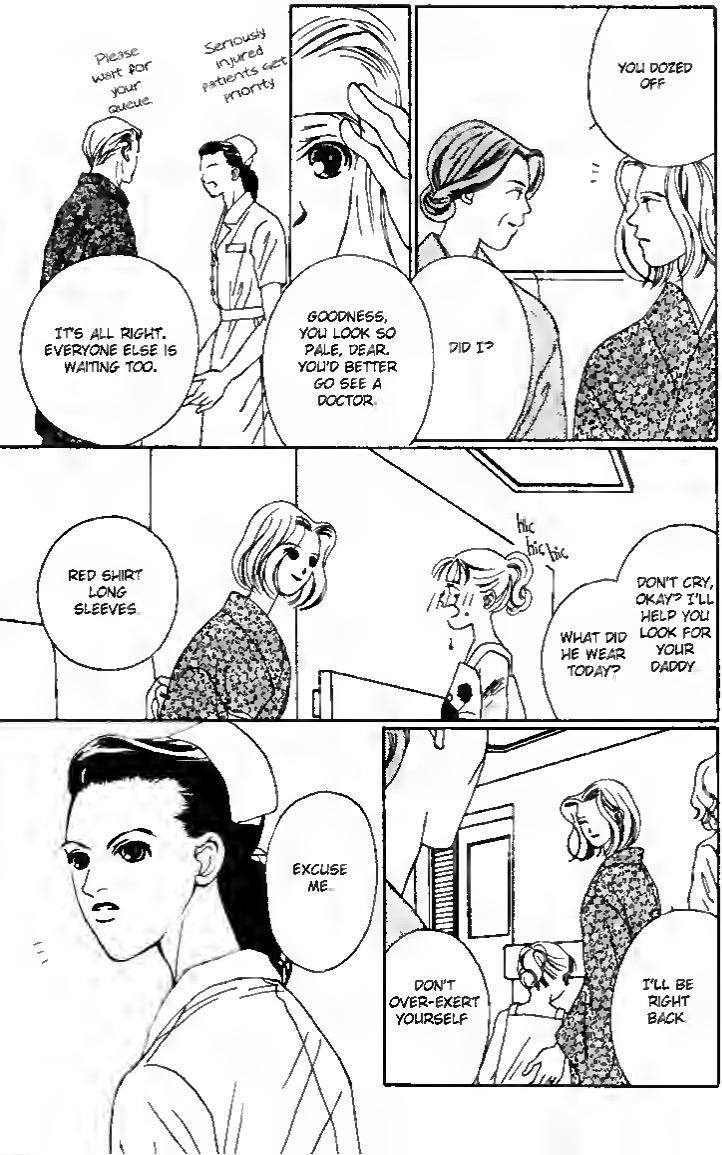
IF THINGS GO WELL,
I'LL HAVE TO TROUBLE YOU TO TALK TO THE FUKUYA MADAM FOR ME.
I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO REFUSE THEM ALL.
RUSTLE
I'VE FOUND THE RIGHT ONE
THE PROPOSAL TOOK THREE MINUTES BUT THE DECISION WAS MADE IN A FLASH.
HINOYAMA-SAN PROPOSED TO ONEE-CHAN THE NEXT DAY.

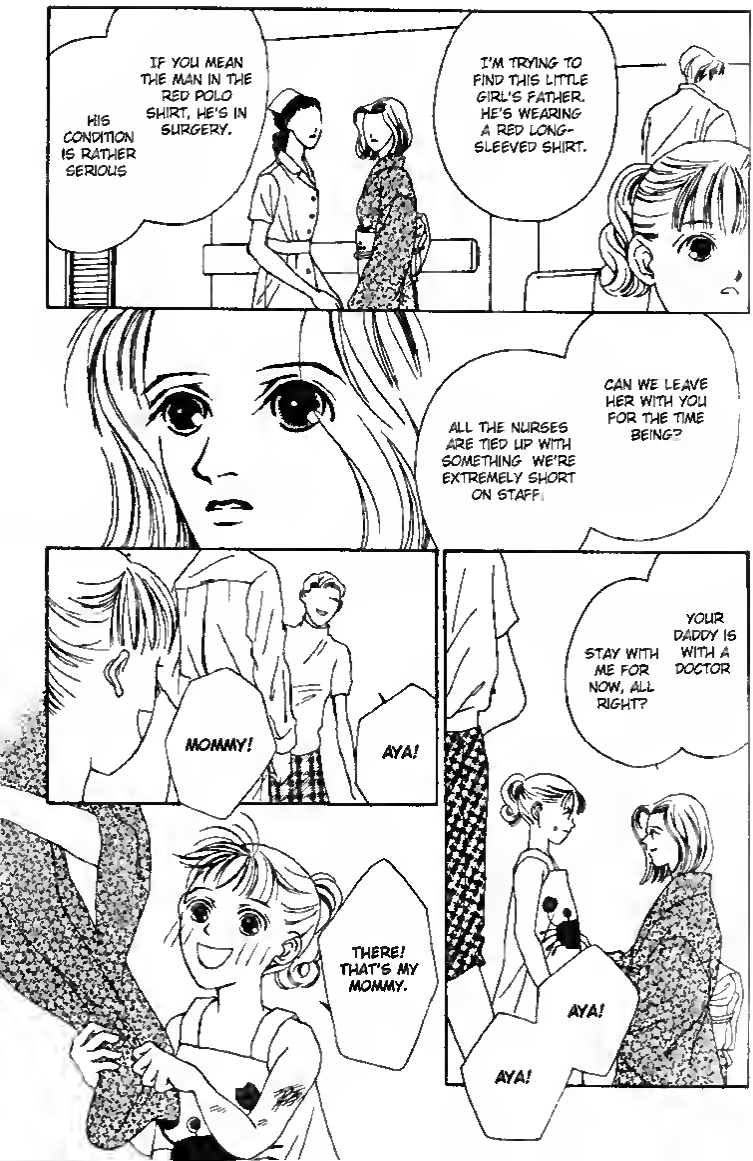
LOOKS ABOUT 20 YEARS OLD
DELICATE BUILD
A YOUNG GIRL IN A KIMONO?
NO, I DON'T THINK SHE'S HERE.
SHE HAS SHOULDER-LENGTH HAIR AND IS WEARING A KIMONO
HINOYAMA -SAN.
ANY NEWS?
NOBODY HAS SEEN HER
MAYBE IT'S NOT THIS HOSPITAL.
LET ME CALL MY MOM

NURSE, HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO WAIT? I'M HURT.
(HATTER
PLEASE WAIT, SIR. ALLOW THE DOCTOR TO TREAT THE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED PATIENTS FIRST.
(HATTER
UGH
DADDY!
WAHH!
UGH
UGH
HANA IS CRYING
HANA'S CRYING.
WAHH!!


WHAT'S WRONG...?
.....
SOB
SOB
WHAT'S WRONG, SWEETIE?

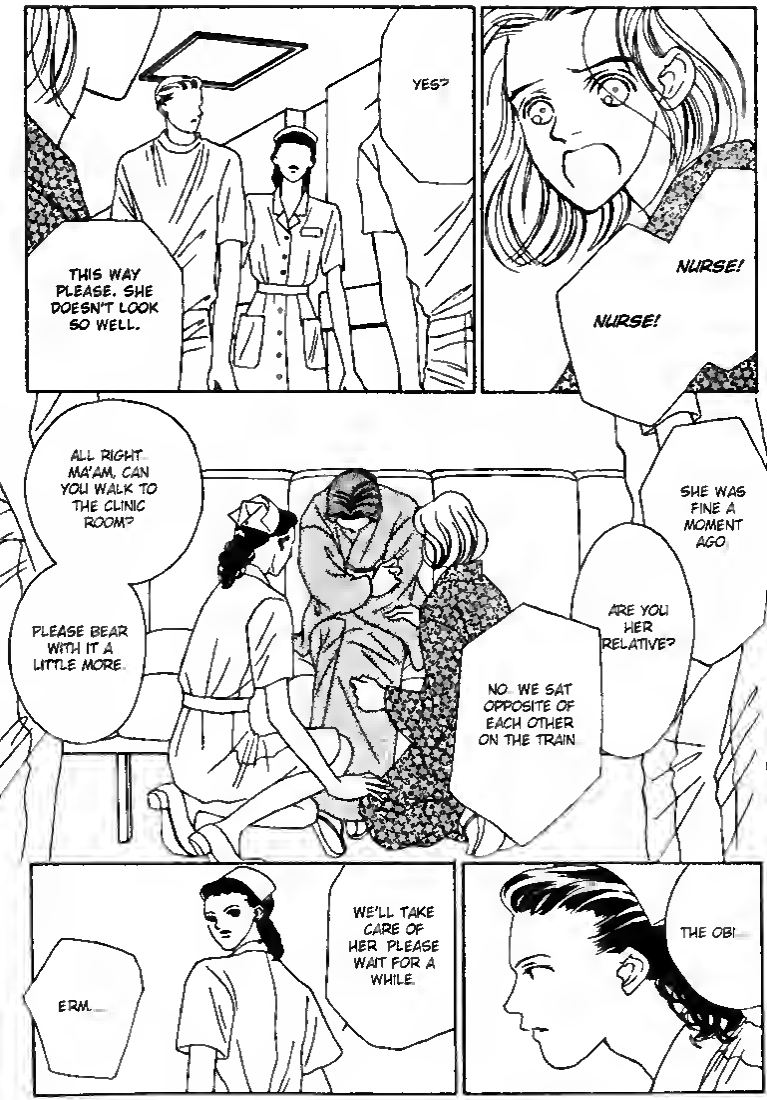

COME HERE.
I SEE... YOU GOT SEPARATED FROM YOUR DAD.
sniff...
B-BUT I CAN'T FIND MY DADDY.
OH, YOU WOKE UP.
IT IS LONELY BEING BY YOURSELF, ISN'T IT?


Please wait for your queue.
Seriously injured patients get priority
YOU DOZED OFF
IT'S ALL RIGHT. EVERYONE ELSE IS WAITING TOO.
GOODNESS, YOU LOOK SO PALE, DEAR. YOU'D BETTER GO SEE A DOCTOR.
DID I?
RED SHIRT LONG SLEEVES
hic hic hic
WHAT DID HE WEAR TODAY?
DON'T CRY, OKAY? I'LL HELP YOU LOOK FOR YOUR DADDY
EXCUSE ME.
DON'T OVER-EXERT YOURSELF
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.


I'M TRYING TO FIND THIS LITTLE GIRL'S FATHER. HE'S WEARING A RED LONG-SLEEVED SHIRT.
IF YOU MEAN THE MAN IN THE RED POLO SHIRT, HE'S IN SURGERY.
HIS CONDITION IS RATHER SERIOUS
CAN WE LEAVE HER WITH YOU FOR THE TIME BEING?
ALL THE NURSES ARE TIED UP WITH SOMETHING WE'RE EXTREMELY SHORT ON STAFF!
YOUR DADDY IS WITH A DOCTOR
STAY WITH ME FOR NOW, ALL RIGHT?
MOMMY!
AYA!
AYA!
AYA!
THERE! THAT'S MY MOMMY.

WHEN THE TRAIN CRASHED, DADDY HELD ME SO TIGHT.
AYA, THANK GOD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT. I TOOK THE FIRST FLIGHT HERE.
WHERE'S YOUR DAD?
I SAW HER CRYING BY HERSELF SO I'VE BEEN KEEPING HER COMPANY.
HE'S IN SURGERY.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD ASK THE NURSE FOR MORE DETAILS.
.....
BYE BYE.
YOU'RE WELCOME.
YOU'RE VERY KIND. THANK YOU VERY

AYA...!
!!!
!!!
OH, YOU'RE BACK.
IS THIS LADY WITH YOU?
SUDDENLY SHE..
MA'AM!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SHE LOOKS FINE FROM THE OUTSIDE.
MAYBE IT'S AN INTERNAL INJURY.
.....


YES?
THIS WAY PLEASE. SHE DOESN'T LOOK SO WELL.
NURSE!
NURSE!
ALL RIGHT MA'AM, CAN YOU WALK TO THE CLINIC ROOM?
PLEASE BEAR WITH IT A LITTLE MORE.
ARE YOU HER RELATIVE?
NO. WE SAT OPPOSITE OF EACH OTHER ON THE TRAIN
SHE WAS FINE A MOMENT AGO.
ERM...
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF HER. PLEASE WAIT FOR A WHILE.
THE OBI...

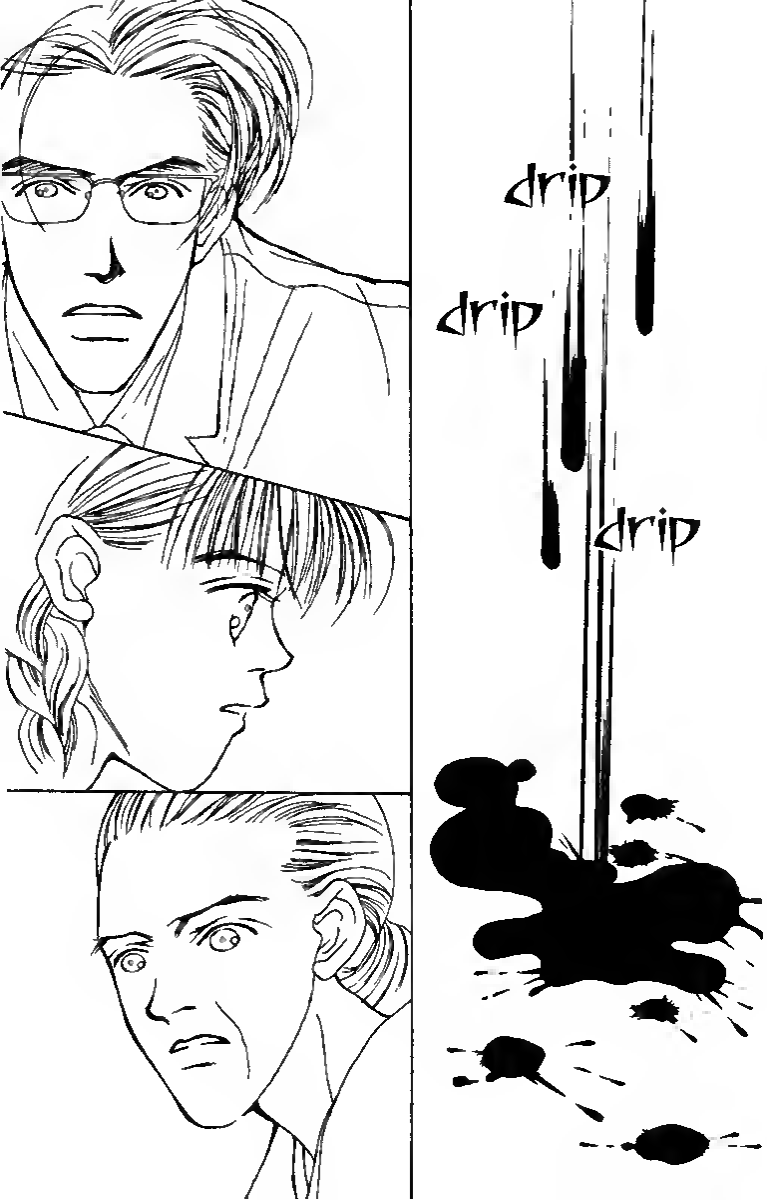
THAT'D BE GREAT IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND...
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO HELP REMOVING THE OBI?
I WISH THERE'RE MORE PEOPLE LIKE YOU TO HELP US WITH THIS.
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?
YES.
YOU MAY RETURN TO THE WAITING ROOM NOW
THE DOCTOR WILL BE HERE SOON
I'M FINE. LET THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY INJURED BE TREATED FIRST.

I'M VERY THIRSTY COULD YOU GET ME SOME WATER PLEASE?
EXCUSE ME.
CLACK
I...
I'VE ALWAYS ENVIED MY SISTERS
PLEASE WAIT A WHILE.

THAT'S WHAT I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT.
PARTYING ALL THE TIME LIKE ARARE. FREE OF OBLIGATIONS LIKE HANA
THEY WERE ALLOWED TO LIVE A CAREFREE LIFE WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE SHOP'S STATUS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
IT'S LIKE THIS IS THE ONLY THING I CAN DO
THANK YOU
HERE YOU ARE.
BUT WHEN THE CHANCE CAME, I ENDED UP REPEATING THE SAME COURSE.
RECEIVED

HINA-
SAN!

ONEE-CHAN!
HINA!
MY SISTER COLLAPSED! PLEASE COME THIS WAY!
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHERE'S THE CLINIC ROOM?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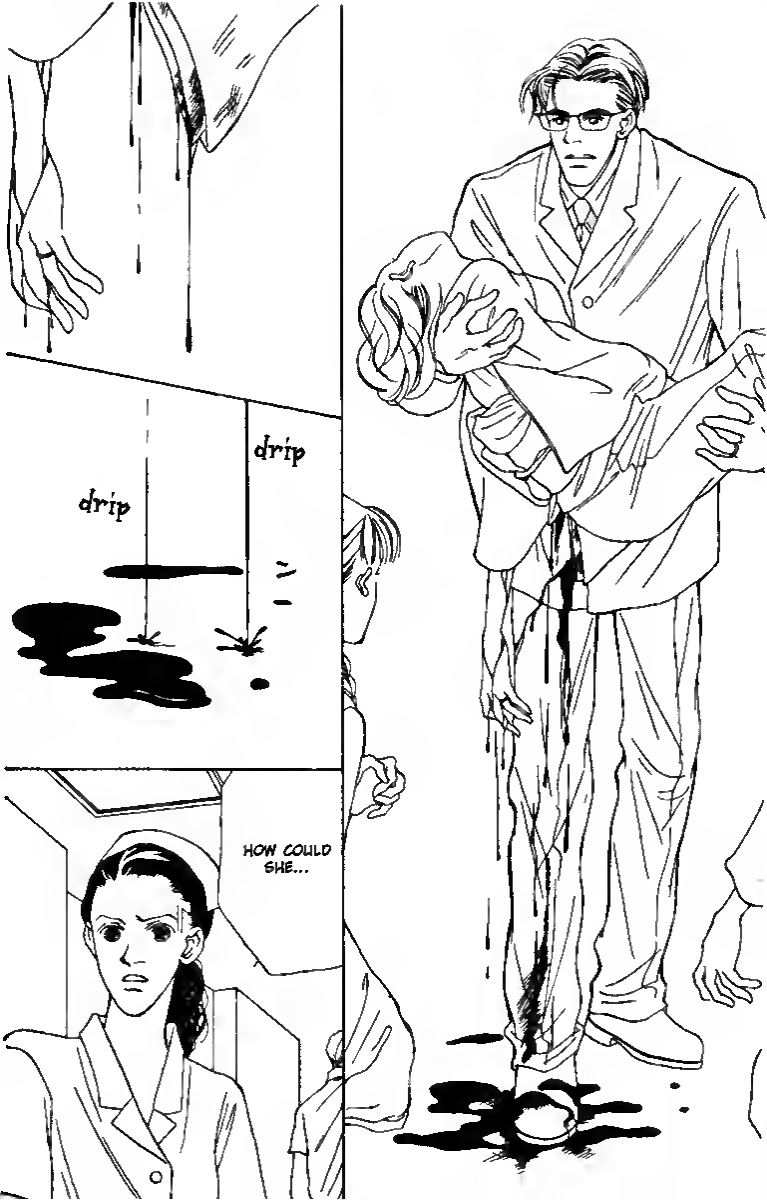
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HOW COULD SHE...

YOU KEPT IT ALL TO YOURSELF AGAIN
SHE LOOKED SO STRONG AND WE NEVER SUSPECTED A THING.
SHE NEEDS TO BE TREATED RIGHT AWAY.

ALWAYS PRETENDING TO BE FINE,
EVEN WHEN SHE'S BLEEDING INSIDE

Uirou

Steamed cake made of rice flour and sugar. It is chewy, similar to mochi, and subtly sweet. Flavours, among others, include matcha bean paste, green tea (matcha), yuzu, strawberry and chestnut. Nagoya is particularly known for its uiro.

This segment is sponsored by Yuzuya shop.

Fukuyadon Honpo

by YUCHI Yayomi

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http://hrdk.com/

FukuyaDouHonpo
福家堂本舗
The path that
I chose (9)

THE UPPER PART OF HER SLEEVE WAS TORN LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING PIERCED HER ARM WHEN THE ACCIDENT HAPPENED.
THE BLOOD POOLED AROUND HER CHEST WHERE THE OBI WAS TIED.
THE SLEEVE WAS JUST A LITTLE WET BUT HER CHEST WAS COVERED IN BLOOD.
SHE'S GOT A HIGH FEVER AS WELL SO THEY WANT HER TO STAY HERE TONIGHT.

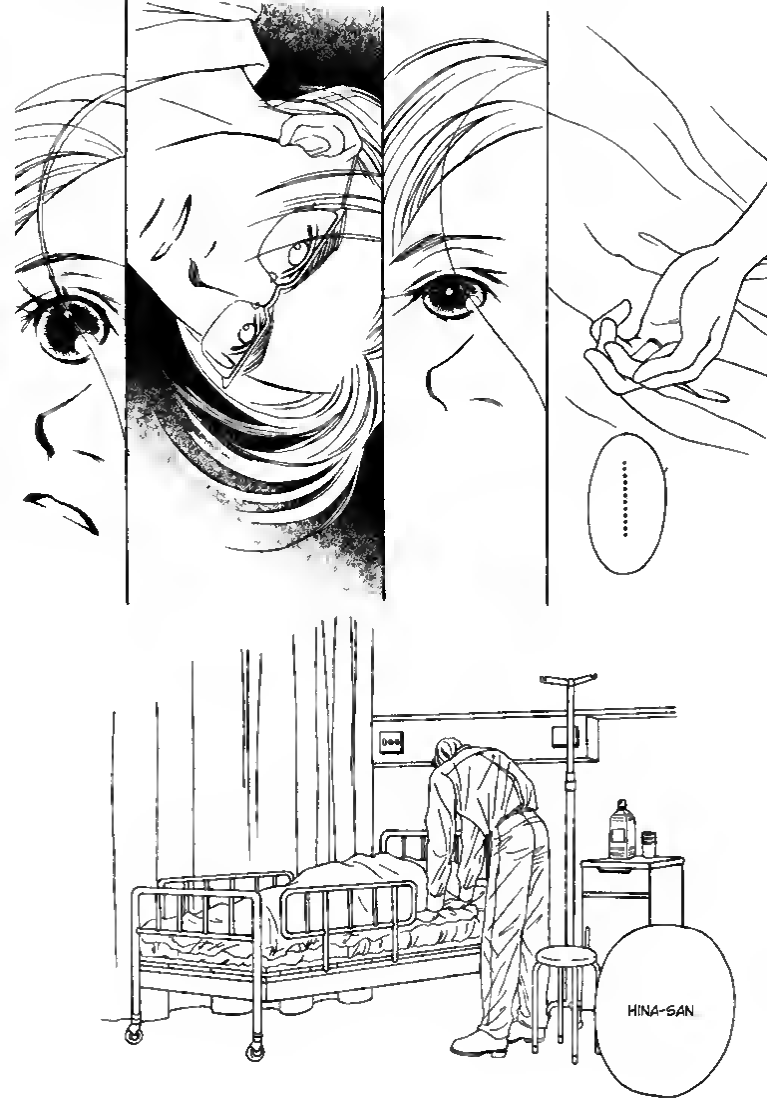
HINA, MY DEAR GIRL. WHY MUST SOMETHING THIS TERRIBLE HAPPEN TO YOU...?
PLEASE LET ME STAY WITH HINA-SAN TONIGHT
NO. I'LL TAKE CARE OF HER MYSELF
PLEASE
WHAT CAN A MAN DO IN THIS SITUATION?
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE IT. LET A MOTHER DO HER JOB.
PLEASE

OPEN
.....
LET ME TAKE CARE OF HER
I JUST GAVE HER THE SALINE
CALL ME IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.
THANK YOU.

RUSTLE

I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE SAFE.
ONEE-CHAN IS SAFE NOW.
HELLO ARARE-CHAN? IT'S ME, HANA.
10円 100円

THEY CLOSED THE WOUND ON HER SHOULDER BUT SHE HAS TO STAY OVERNIGHT
SO WE CAN'T COME HOME YET. YEAH, WE'RE FINE.
ONEE-CHAN? SHE WAS BUSY TAKING CARE OF OTHERS.
SHE WAS IN TERRIBLE SHAPE, BUT ALL SHE CARED ABOUT WAS OTHER PEOPLE'S WELL-BEING
THAT'S OUR ONEE-CHAN ALRIGHT
UGH ..


.....
HINA-SAN

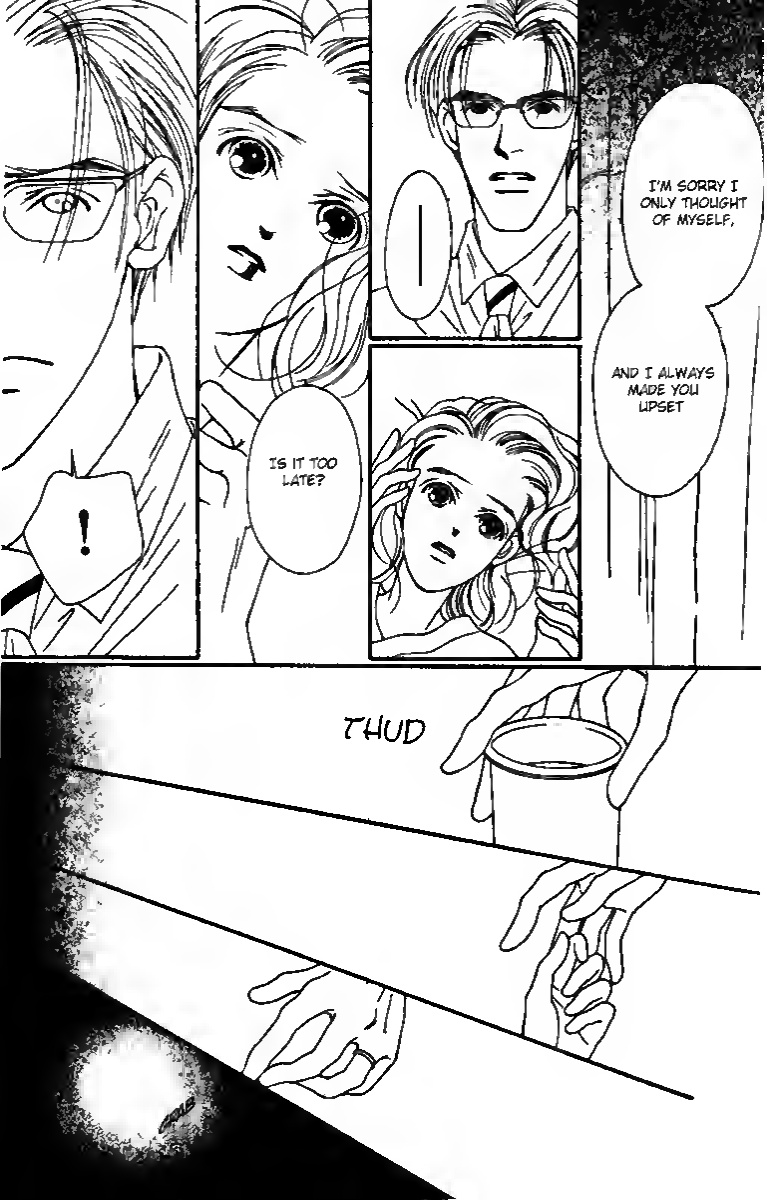
HINO...
TAKE IT EASY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING. REST
YOU MUST FEEL DISORIENTED. IT'S FINE NOW. THEY TOOK CARE OF THE WOUND.
.....
.....
I'LL GET THEM
OBA-SAN AND HANA-CHAN ARE HERE TOO.
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE. I'M JUST GOING TO CALL YOUR MOM.
DON'T GO

PLEASE DON'T GO.
PLEASE DON'T GO ANYWHERE
STAY HERE WITH ME.
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
I'LL BE WITH YOU ALL THE TIME.

SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING, OKAY?
HINOYAMA-SAN, I...
LET'S TALK TOMORROW. YOU HAVE A HIGH FEVER, YOU KNOW.
YOU SHOULD GET SOME REST NOW
IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU WANT?
TELL ME. ANYTHING.
OH! YEAH. WATER

THE DOCTOR SAID WE SHOULD KEEP YOU HYDRATED
YOU MUST BE THIRSTY, WAKING UP WITH A FEVER
OF COURSE. ANYTHING YOU WANT. JUST TELL ME.
I CAN HAVE ANYTHING I WANT?
HANA WENT OUT TO BUY MORE WATER.

WHAT I
WANT...


I'M SORRY I ONLY THOUGHT OF MYSELF,
AND I ALWAYS MADE YOU UPSET
I
IS IT TOO LATE?
!
THUD

NO MORE OF THIS, PLEASE
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER GET TO SEE YOU AGAIN. .
THE WORDS AFTER THAT WERE EITHER "I DON'T WANT YOU TO DO THIS" OR "I WON'T LET YOU DO THAT"
KNOCK
KNOCK

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK

IT'S OKAY. WAIT UNTIL MORNING.
COME HERE AND SLEEP.
KNOCK
HANA.

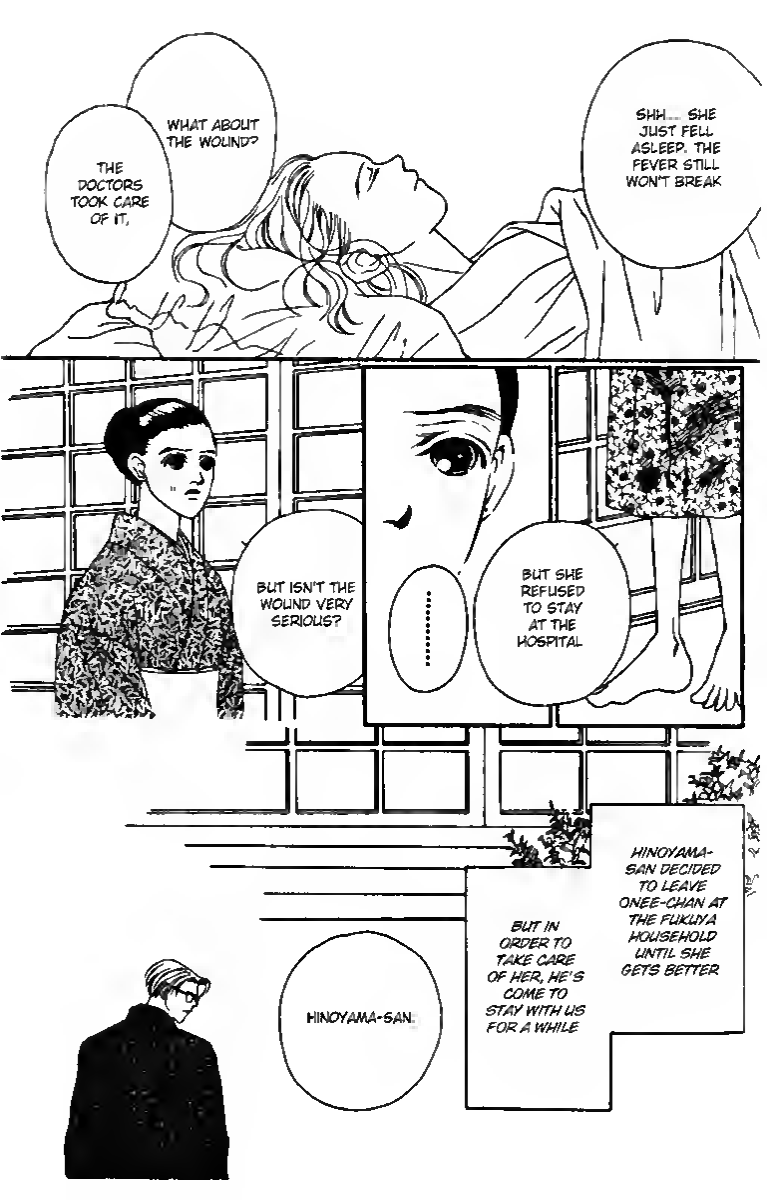
YES..
open
THANK YOU.
YOU SHOULD GET SOME REST. I'LL TAKE OVER
THE FEVER IS STILL HIGH.
SHE JUST FELL BACK TO SLEEP
HOW IS SHE?

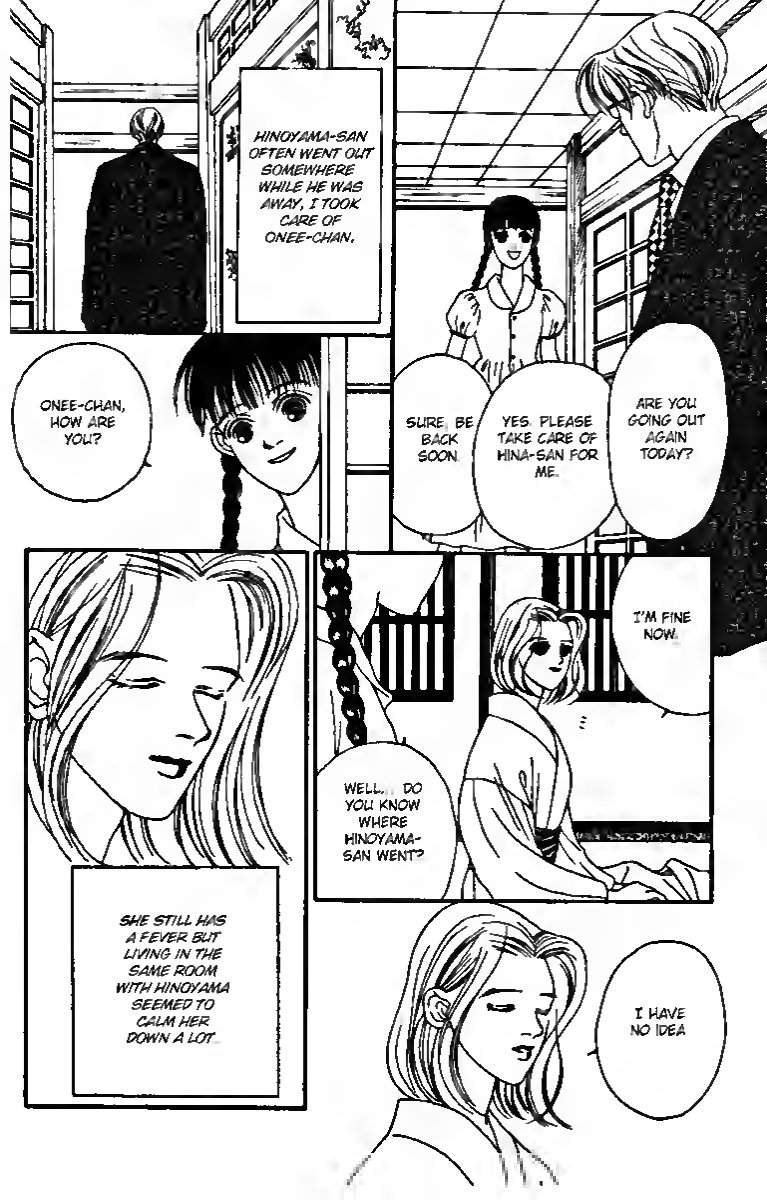
!
KYAA ...!!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. EVERYTHING IS OKAY.
SHE'S WOKEN UP EVERY HALF AN HOUR LIKE THIS,
PROBABLY DREAMING ABOUT THE ACCIDENT.
THE FEVER COULD BE TO BLAME, TOO.

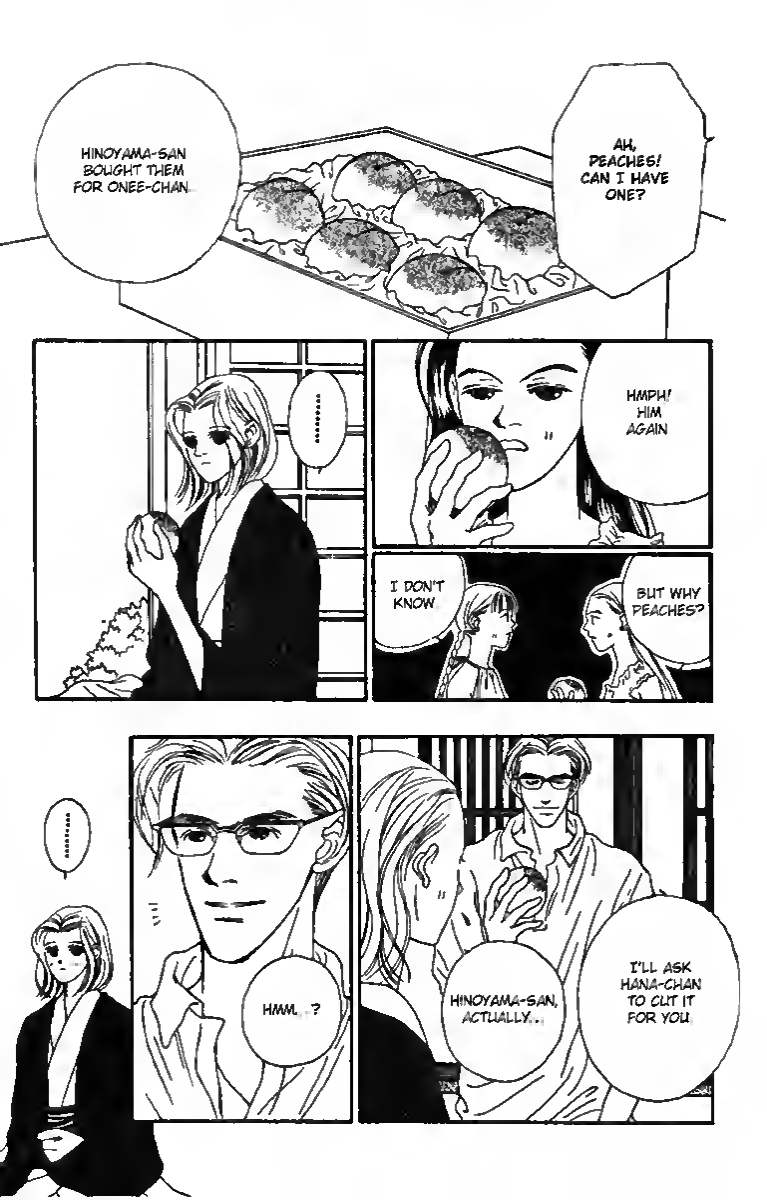
I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HER, OBA-SAN.
PLEASE LET ME STAY WITH HER UNTIL MORNING.
I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRIED.
I WAS SO WORRIED. IT MUST HAVE HURT SO BADLY.
MOM
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? I'M YOUR MOTHER YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO FORMAL
REST DON'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE
THAT NIGHT...

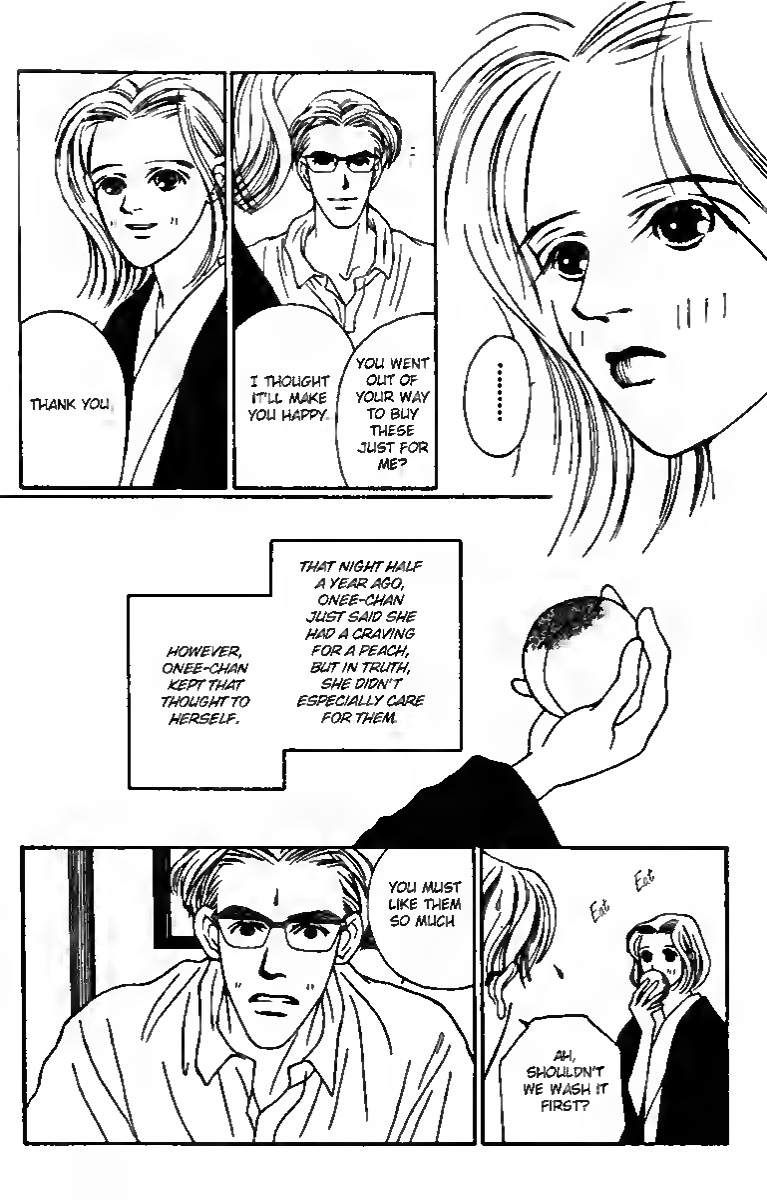
HINOYAMA-SAN STAYED WITH ONEE-CHAN WHO WAS STILL IN SHOCK FROM THE ACCIDENT.
HE STAYED UP ALL NIGHT WITHOUT A WINK OF SLEEP.
AFTERWARDS...

FUKUOKA
SEI-OJISAN, CAN I ACCEPT THE ORDER FOR THE TEA CEREMONY'S WAGASHI ON MOM'S BEHALF?
HMM... OKAY. YAMAZAKI-SAN'S ORDER, LET KENJI HANDLE IT
ARARE
THEN I'LL TELL KISHI TO TEND THE SHOP TODAY.
HANA!
THEY'VE COME BACK, DO YOU KNOW THAT?
HOW'S ONEE-CHAN?


WHAT ABOUT THE WOUND?
THE DOCTORS TOOK CARE OF IT,
SHH... SHE JUST FELL ASLEEP. THE FEVER STILL WON'T BREAK
BUT ISN'T THE WOUND VERY SERIOUS?
.....
BUT SHE REFUSED TO STAY AT THE HOSPITAL
HINOYAMA-SAN.
BUT IN ORDER TO TAKE CARE OF HER, HE'S COME TO STAY WITH US FOR A WHILE
HINOYAMA-SAN DECIDED TO LEAVE ONEE-CHAN AT THE FUKUYA HOUSEHOLD UNTIL SHE GETS BETTER


HINOYAMA-SAN OFTEN WENT OUT SOMEWHERE WHILE HE WAS AWAY, I TOOK CARE OF ONEE-CHAN.
ARE YOU GOING OUT AGAIN TODAY?
YES. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF HINA-SAN FOR ME.
SURE. BE BACK SOON.
ONEE-CHAN, HOW ARE YOU?
I'M FINE NOW.
WELL... DO YOU KNOW WHERE HINOYAMA-SAN WENT?
I HAVE NO IDEA
SHE STILL HAS A FEVER BUT LIVING IN THE SAME ROOM WITH HINOYAMA SEEMED TO CALM HER DOWN A LOT.


HINOYAMA-SAN BOUGHT THEM FOR ONEE-CHAN.
AH, PEACHES! CAN I HAVE ONE?
.....
HMPH! HIM AGAIN
I DON'T KNOW.
BUT WHY PEACHES?
.....
HMM...?
HINOYAMA-SAN, ACTUALLY...
I'LL ASK HANA-CHAN TO CUT IT FOR YOU.


THANK YOU.
I THOUGHT IT'LL MAKE YOU HAPPY.
YOU WENT OUT OF YOUR WAY TO BUY THESE JUST FOR ME?
.....
THAT NIGHT HALF A YEAR AGO, ONEE-CHAN JUST SAID SHE HAD A CRAVING FOR A PEACH, BUT IN TRUTH, SHE DIDN'T ESPECIALLY CARE FOR THEM.
HOWEVER, ONEE-CHAN KEPT THAT THOUGHT TO HERSELF.
YOU MUST LIKE THEM SO MUCH
Eat
Eat
AH, SHOULDN'T WE WASH IT FIRST?

FROM NOW ON, ONEE-CHAN'S FAVORITE FRUITS ARE PEACHES.
AFTER THAT, WHENEVER HINOYAMA-SAN WANTED TO MAKE ONEE-CHAN HAPPY, HE'D BUY SOME PEACHES FOR HER.
SHE STILL TELLS THESE WHITE LIES EVERY NOW AND THEN.
.....
OH... THERE'S NOTHING MORE DELICIOUS...

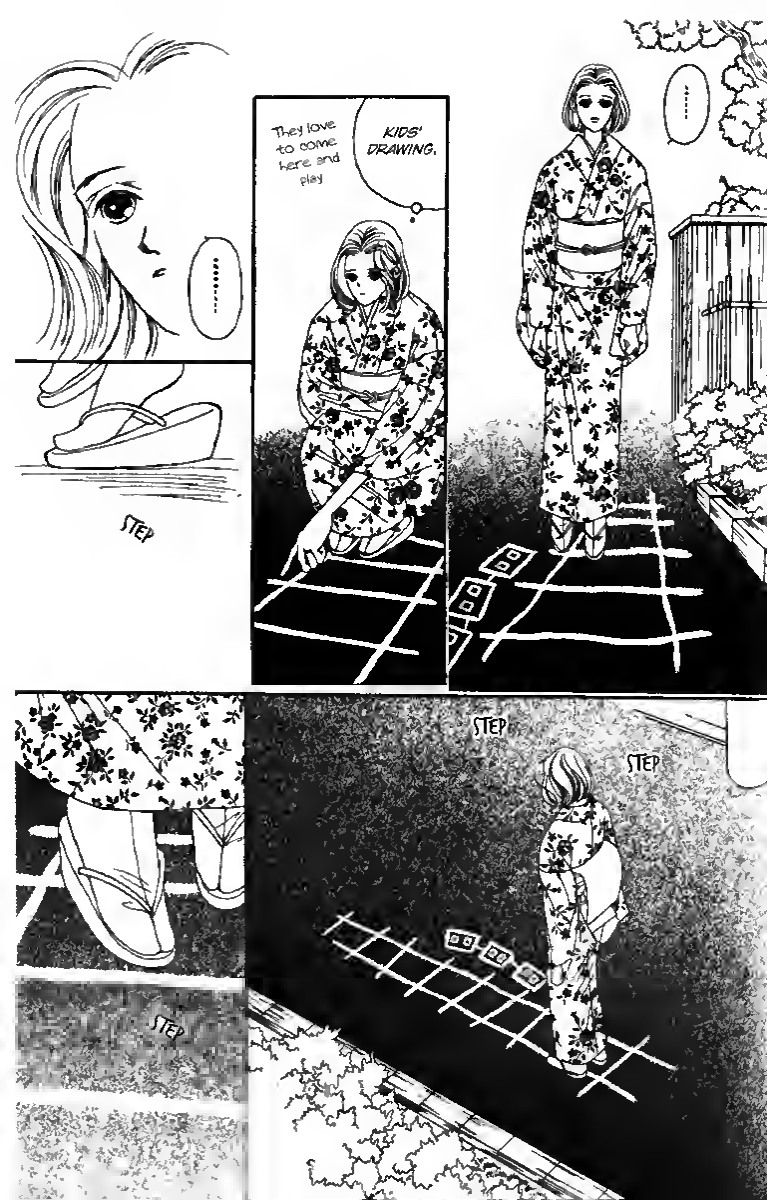
HINOYAMA-SAN BEING OUR HOUSEGUEST SPURRED UP SOME CONCERNS FROM ME AND ARARE.
HM?
ARARE-CHAN
HANA, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
I WAS THIRSTY.
THEN GO GET SOME WATER
I HEARD SOME NOISE
BUT WHEN I WALKED PAST ONEE-CHAN'S ROOM,
SOME... SOME NOISE?
LIKE SHE'S IN PAIN...
IN PAIN...?
What happened to my Hana? She's changed!
WHAT?
LEAVE THEM ALONE. GO GO!
SHE WENT TO HAVE HER STITCHES REMOVED TODAY.
So it's all in my head
Innocent

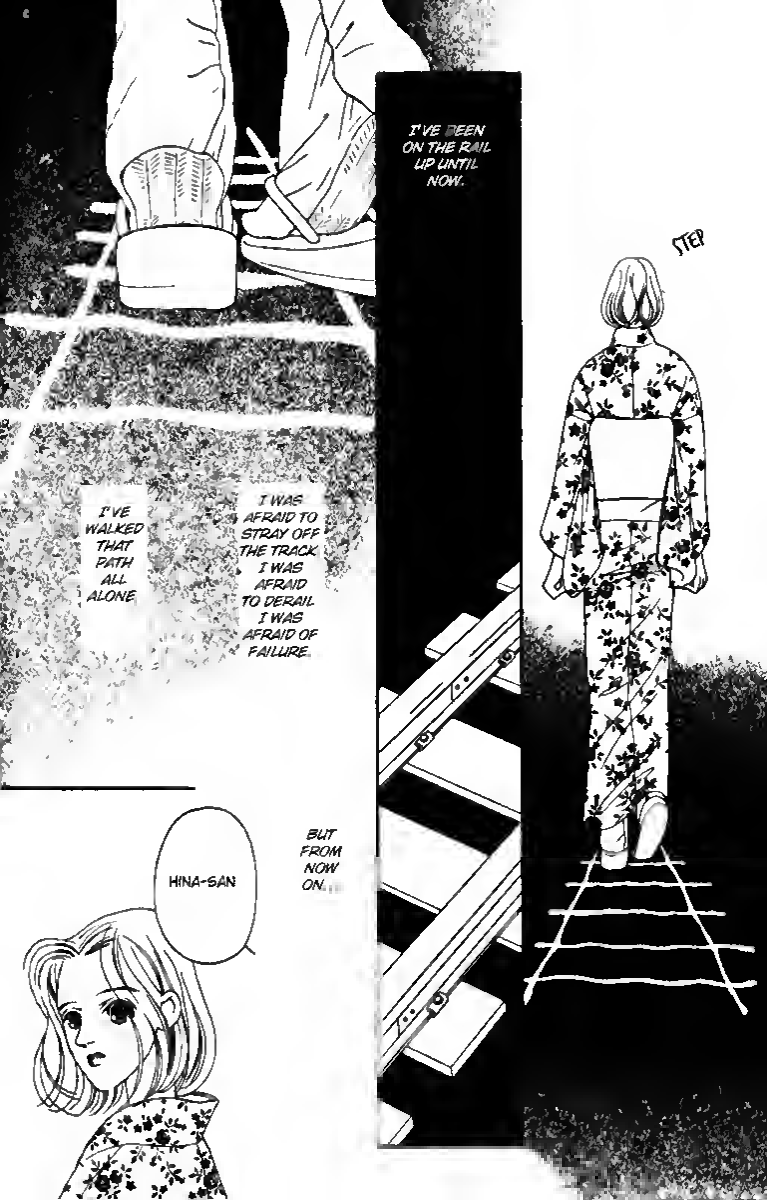
THEY KNEW WE WERE SNOOPING ON THEM?!
AH!
SNEAK
.....
!
.....
THREE TIMES?
YES, THREE TIMES.
" "
HO, THREE TIMES? NO WONDER SO MANY PEOPLE SAID THEY SAW HER WALKING HOME IN HER SLEEPING YUKATA.
HA HA HA, IF I HAD KNOWN, I'D HAVE COME AFTER YOU INSTANTLY.
SO I KEPT WALKING AROUND JUST IN CASE.
THAT NIGHT I WAS SO UPSET I WALKED BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN YOUR HOUSE AND MINE THREE TIMES. I WAS HOPING THAT YOU WOULD COME AFTER ME

EVERYDAY LAUGHTER AND THE SOUNDS OF CHIT-CHAT FLOWED OUT FROM THAT ROOM
.....
EH? IT SUDDENLY WENT QUIET? WHAT'RE THEY DOING?
EVERY TIME WE WALKED PAST THEIR ROOM, WHETHER WE HEARD VOICES OR NOT, IT MADE US THINK
YOU KNOW, HANA WE BOTH HAVE TO DO OUR BEST
OH MY, ISN'T IT HOT TODAY?

THAT'S RIGHT. WITH SUCH A STIFLING JULY, WHO KNOWS HOW HOT THIS DECEMBER WILL BE?
HANA, YOU SILLY.
Think before you speak
SO WE TRIED TO COME UP WITH WHATEVER CONVERSATION WE COULD THINK OF EVERY TIME WE WALKED PAST THEIR ROOM
The Tigers are having such a lousy season this year
Anee-chan you're too loud
I'M NOT GOING TO DO WHAT YOU THINK UNDER THIS ROOF.
THEY SEEM TO TAKE INTEREST IN EVERYTHING, DON'T THEY?
SIGH...
ONEE-CHAN MADE A RECOVERY AT LAST.
TAKE CARE.
WE'LL COME TO GET OUR STUFF LATER
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SEE YOU LATER, MOM

NEXT TIME YOU COME BACK HOME, PLEASE CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES BEFORE YOU DO SO
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE HAD A STROLL TOGETHER LIKE THIS
SINCE THAT TRIP TO THE HOSPITAL
WAIT FOR ME HERE
YES.
AH, I FORGOT THE KEYS.


.....
They love to come here and play
KIDS' DRAWING.
.....
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP


I'VE WALKED THAT PATH ALL ALONE.
I WAS AFRAID TO STRAY OFF THE TRACK. I WAS AFRAID TO DERAIL. I WAS AFRAID OF FAILURE.
I'VE BEEN ON THE RAIL UP UNTIL NOW.
STEP
BUT FROM NOW ON...
HINA-SAN

LET'S GO.
HINOYAMA-SAN, CAN WE WALK OUTSIDE A LITTLE BIT MORE?
SURE. LET'S TAKE A WALK TOGETHER

HAND IN HAND
TOGETHER
FOREVER

Fukuyadou Honpo

by YuGHTYayomi

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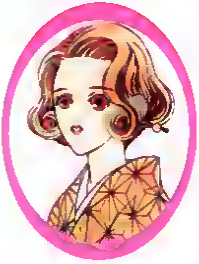
Fukuya dō Honpo
福家堂本舗
7
Story & Illustration by
YAYOMI YUCHI

AUTHOR'S NOTE



Whenever I get a chance to watch artisans making things like soba, bamboo shades, Japanese paper, woven fabric, pottery, wickerwork, shoes, bags, furniture, glasses, woodwork, tatami mats, umbrella, combs, fireworks, pastries, pizzas, western sweets, and wagashi, I always lose myself in it and forget the time.

- Yuchi Yayomi